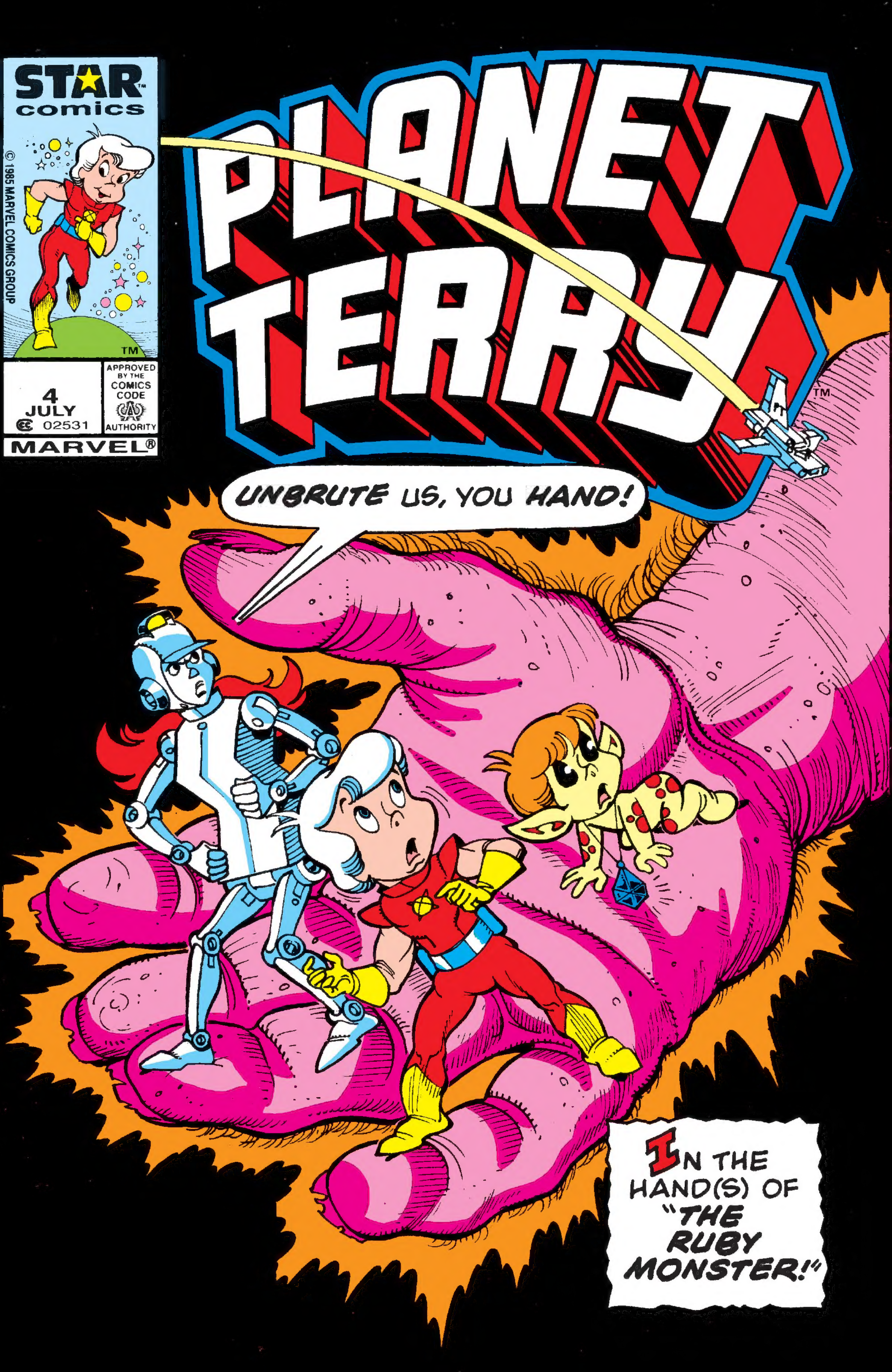
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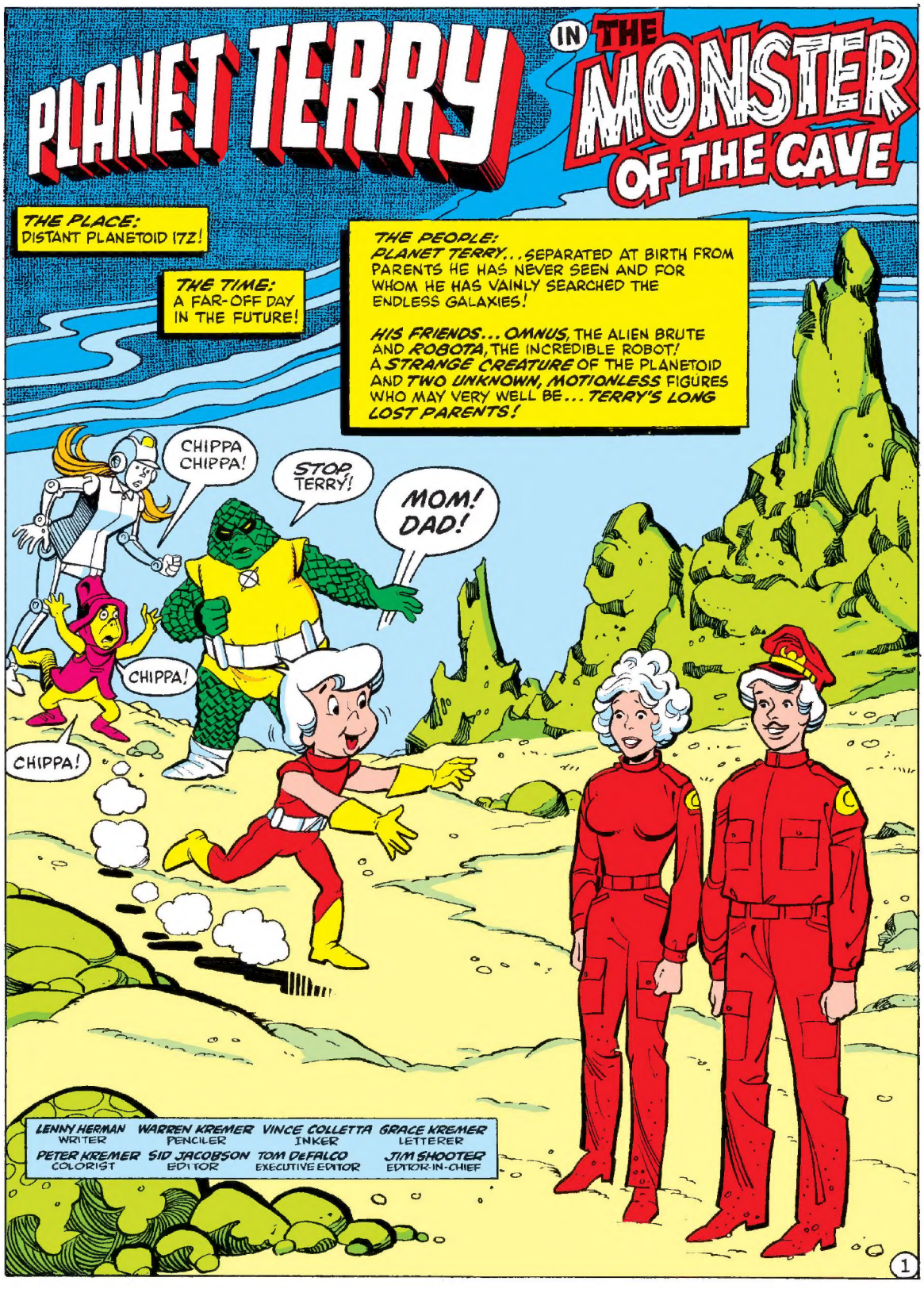
MARVEL®
PLANET TERRY
TM
UNBRUTE US, YOU HAND!
IN THE HAND(S) OF "THE RUBY MONSTER!"



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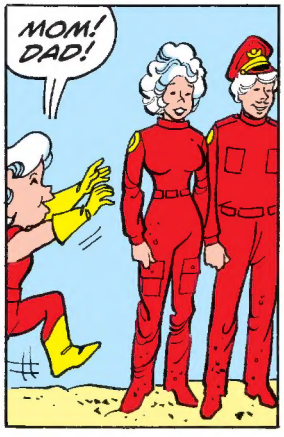
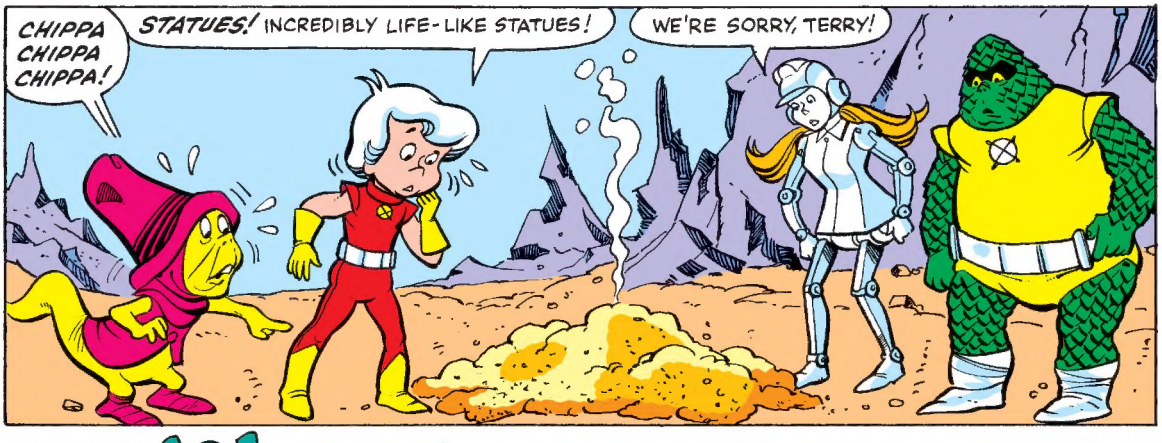

MOM! DAD!

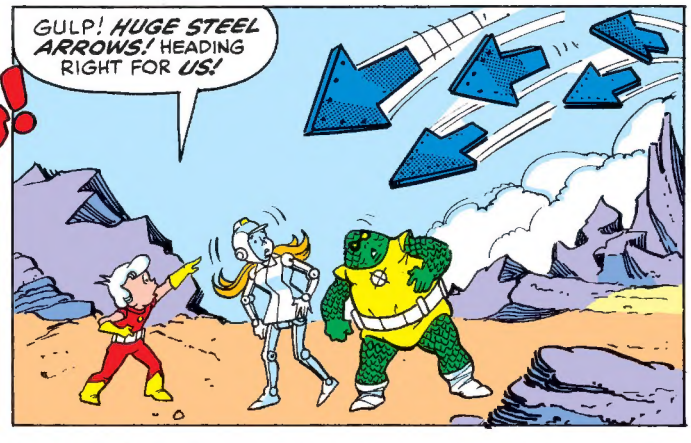
IT'S ME! TER...

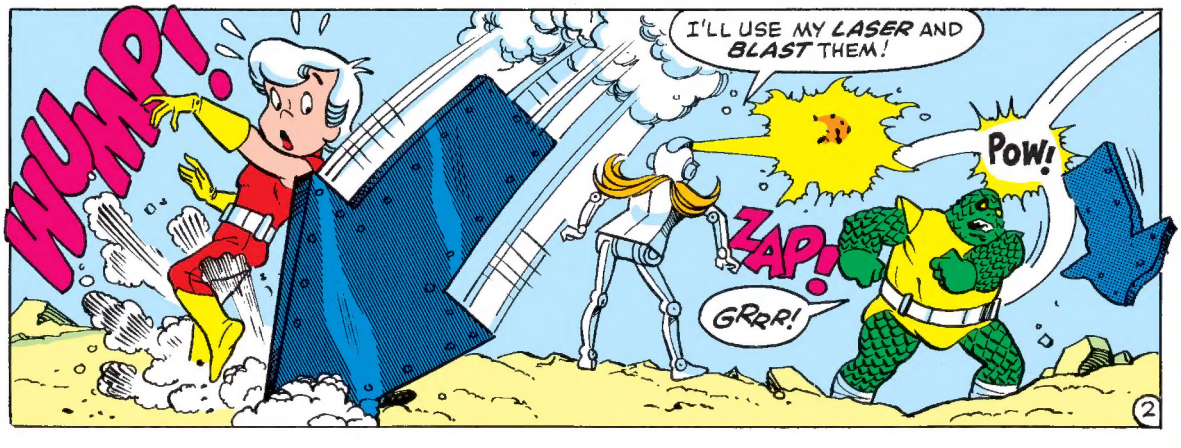
...RY!

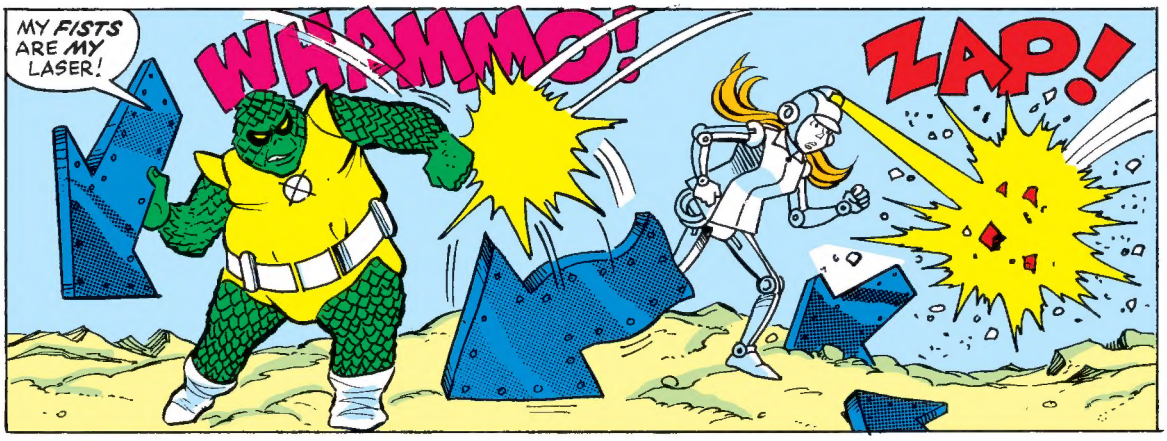
GASP!

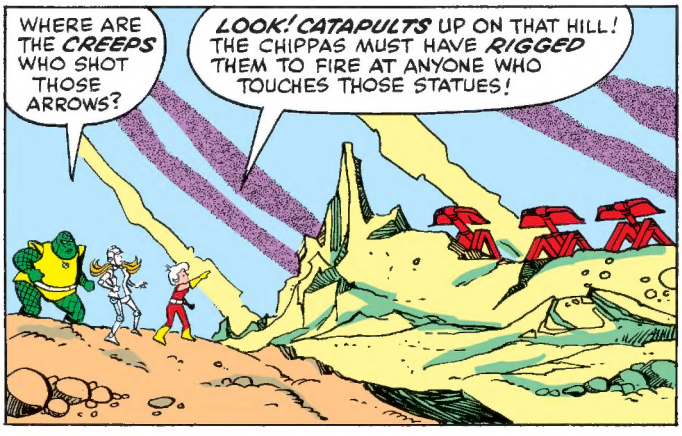

CHIPPA CHIPPA CHIPPA!
STATUES! INCREDIBLY LIFE-LIKE STATUES!
WE'RE SORRY, TERRY!

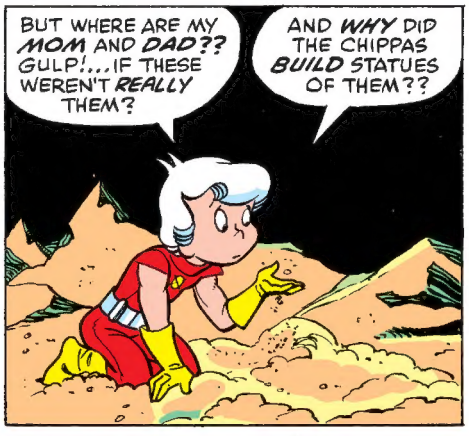
TWANG!
TWANG!
TWANG!
TWANG!
WHAT'S THAT?

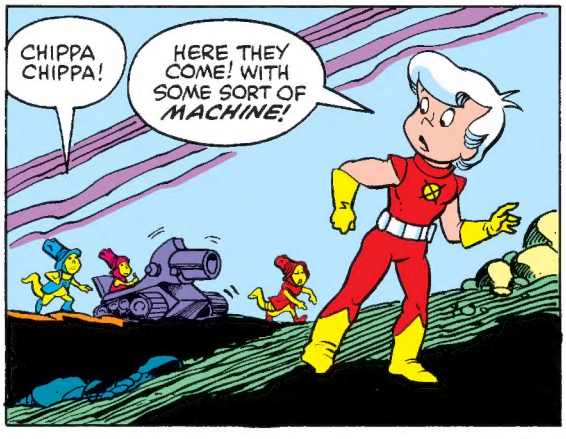

GULP! HUGE STEEL ARROWS! HEADING RIGHT FOR US!

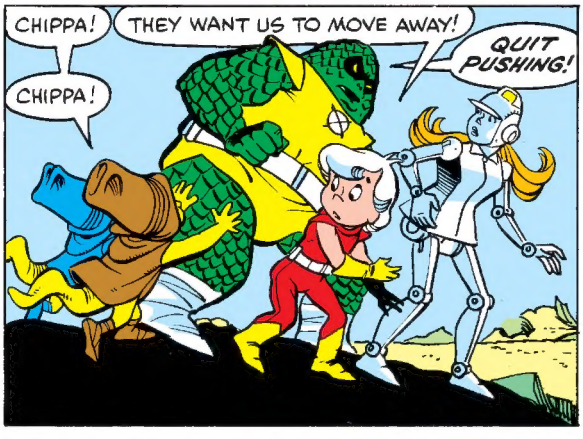

WUMP!
I'LL USE MY LASER AND BLAST THEM!
ZAP!
POW!
GRRR!

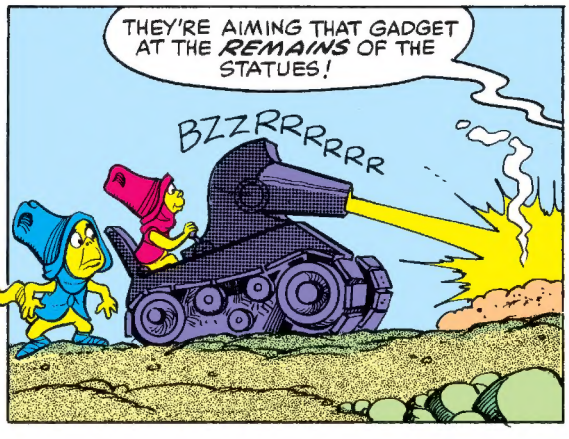

MY FISTS ARE MY LASER!
WHAMMO!
ZAP!

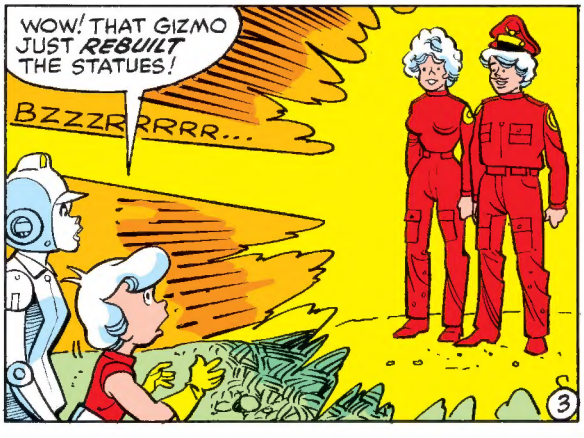

WHERE ARE THE CREEPS WHO SHOT THOSE ARROWS?
LOOK! CATAPULTS UP ON THAT HILL! THE CHIPPAS MUST HAVE RIGGED THEM TO FIRE AT ANYONE WHO TOUCHES THOSE STATUES!

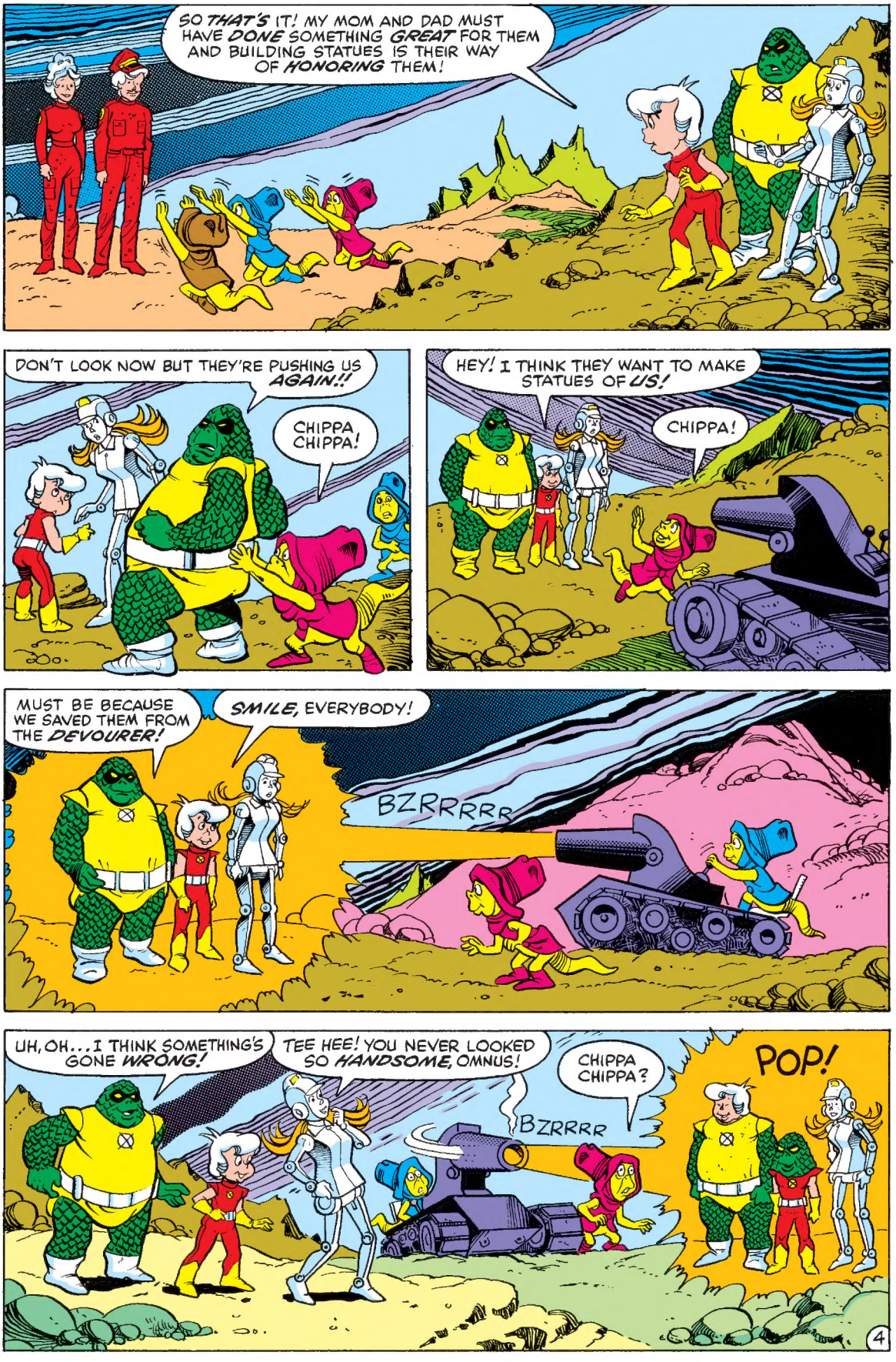

BUT WHERE ARE MY MOM AND DAD?? GULP!... IF THESE WEREN'T REALLY THEM?
AND WHY DID THE CHIPPAS BUILD STATUES OF THEM??


CHIPPA CHIPPA!
HERE THEY COME! WITH SOME SORT OF MACHINE!

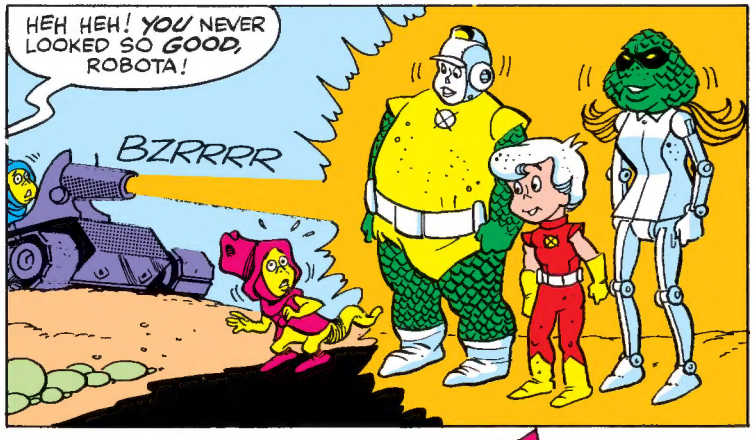

CHIPPA!
THEY WANT US TO MOVE AWAY!
QUIT PUSHING!
CHIPPA!

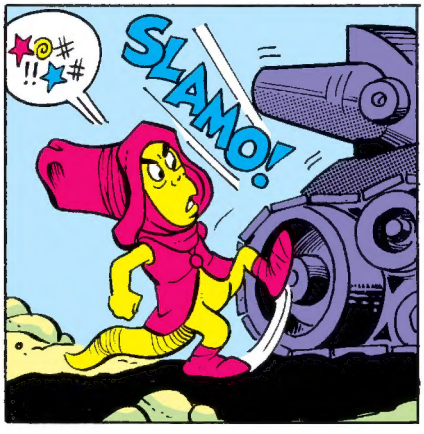

THEY'RE AIMING THAT GADGET AT THE REMAINS OF THE STATUES!
BZZRRRRRR...

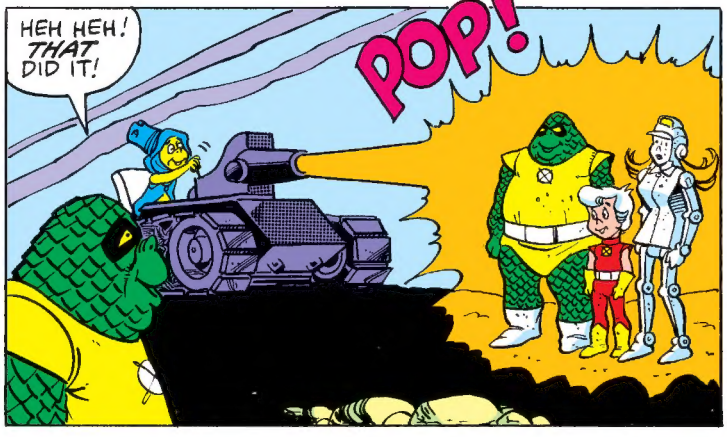

WOW! THAT GIZMO JUST REBUILT THE STATUES!
BZZZRRRRR...

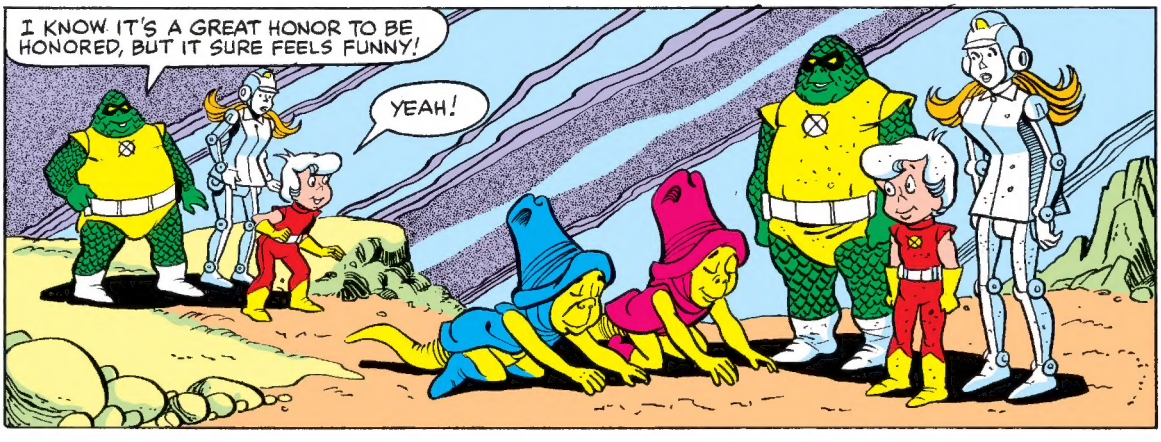

SO THAT'S IT! MY MOM AND DAD MUST HAVE DONE SOMETHING GREAT FOR THEM AND BUILDING STATUES IS THEIR WAY OF HONORING THEM!
DON'T LOOK NOW BUT THEY'RE PUSHING US AGAIN!!
CHIPPA CHIPPA!
HEY! I THINK THEY WANT TO MAKE STATUES OF US!
CHIPPA!
MUST BE BECAUSE WE SAVED THEM FROM THE DEVOURER!
SMILE, EVERYBODY!
BZRRRRR
UH, OH... I THINK SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG!
TEE HEE! YOU NEVER LOOKED SO HANDSOME, OMNUS!
CHIPPA CHIPPA?
BZRRRR
POP!

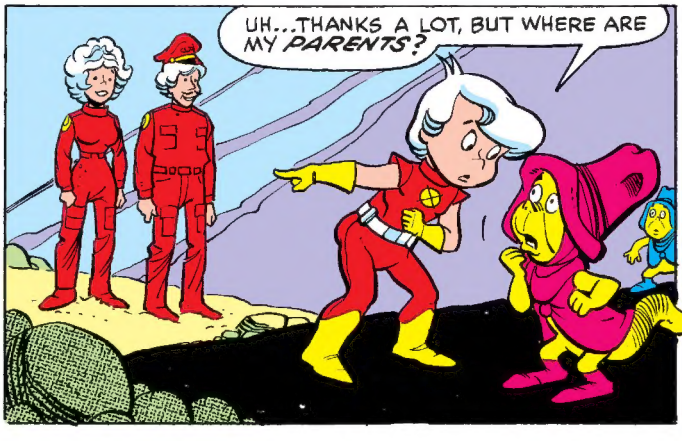
CHIPPA CHIPPA CHIPPA!!

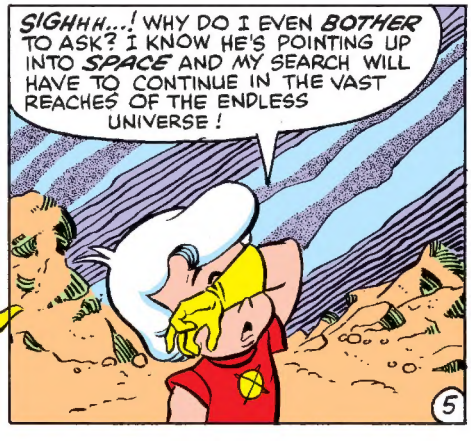

HEH HEH! YOU NEVER LOOKED SO GOOD, ROBOTA!
BZRRRR

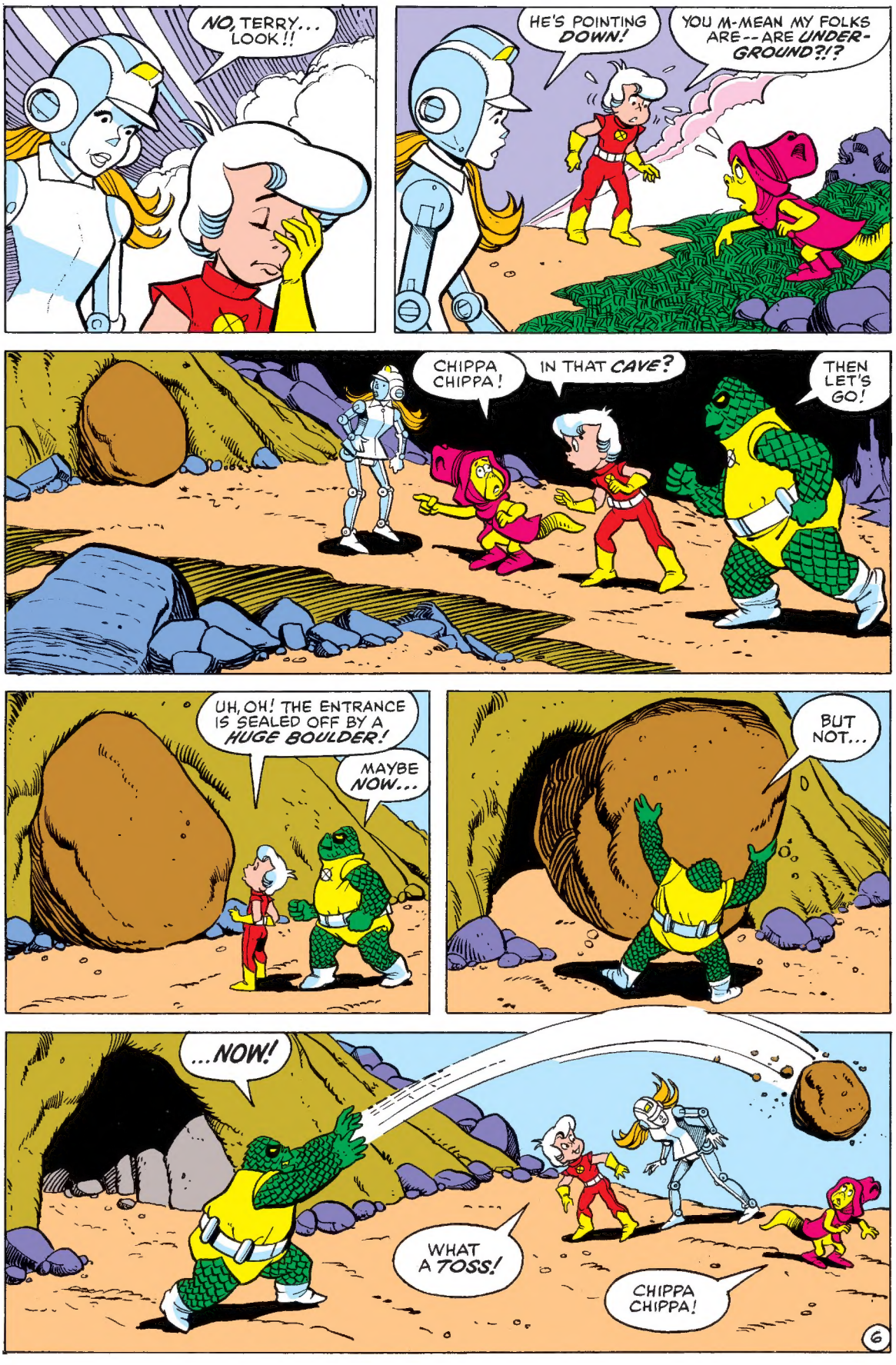

SLAMO!

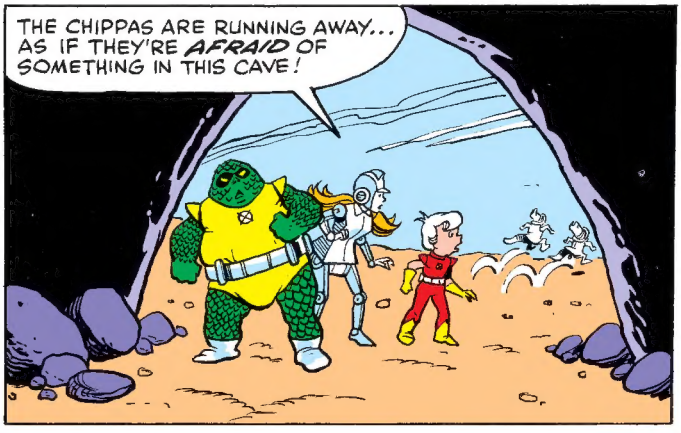

HEH HEH! THAT DID IT!
POP!

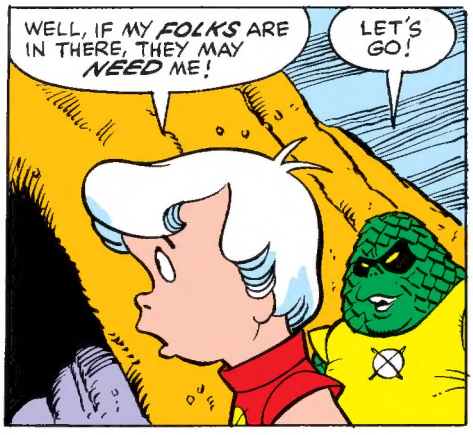

I KNOW IT'S A GREAT HONOR TO BE HONORED, BUT IT SURE FEELS FUNNY!
YEAH!

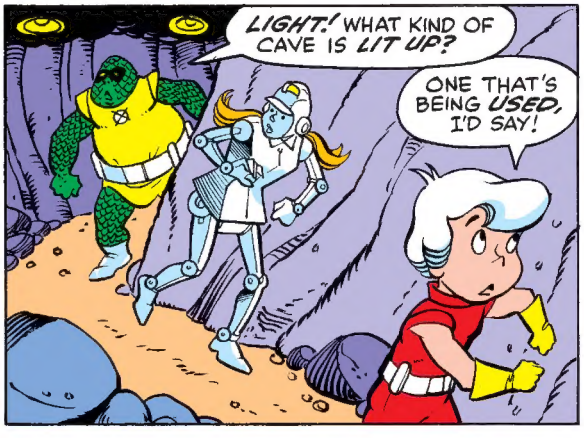

UH...THANKS A LOT, BUT WHERE ARE MY PARENTS?

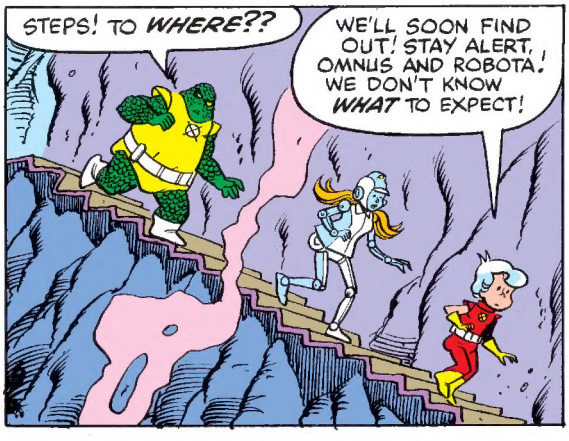

SIGHHH...! WHY DO I EVEN BOTHER TO ASK? I KNOW HE'S POINTING UP INTO SPACE AND MY SEARCH WILL HAVE TO CONTINUE IN THE VAST REACHES OF THE ENDLESS UNIVERSE!


NO, TERRY... LOOK!!
HE'S POINTING DOWN!
YOU M-MEAN MY FOLKS ARE--ARE UNDER-GROUND?!?
CHIPPA CHIPPA!
IN THAT CAVE?
THEN LET'S GO!
UH, OH! THE ENTRANCE IS SEALED OFF BY A HUGE BOULDER!
MAYBE NOW...
BUT NOT...
...NOW!
WHAT A TOSS!
CHIPPA CHIPPA!
6

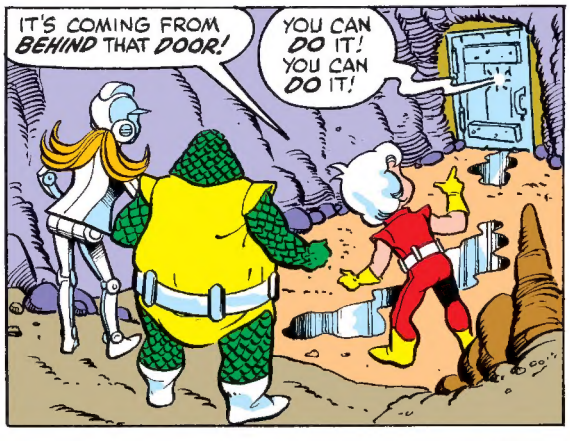

THE CHIPPAS ARE RUNNING AWAY... AS IF THEY'RE *AFRAID* OF SOMETHING IN THIS CAVE!


WELL, IF MY *FOLKS* ARE IN THERE, THEY MAY *NEED* ME!
LET'S GO!

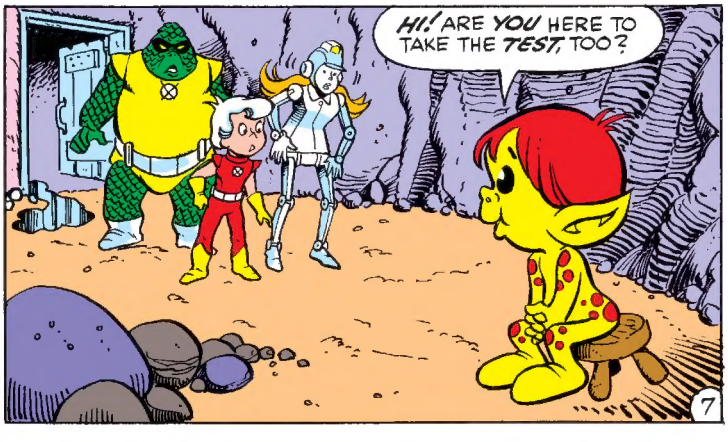

LIGHT! WHAT KIND OF CAVE IS *LIT UP?*
ONE THAT'S BEING *USED,* I'D SAY!

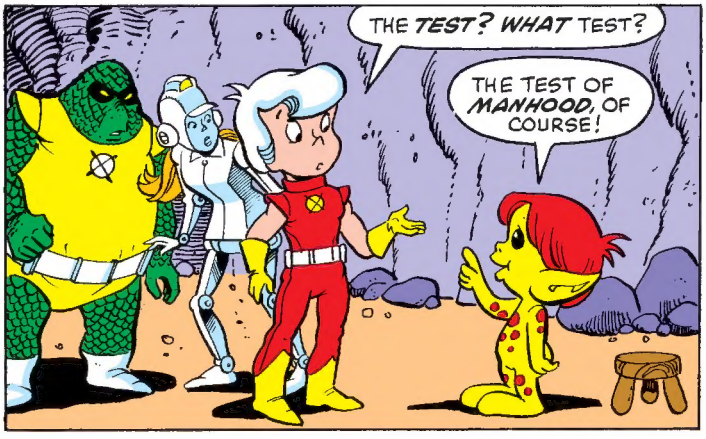

STEPS! TO *WHERE??*
WE'LL SOON FIND OUT! STAY ALERT, OMNUS AND ROBOTA! WE DON'T KNOW *WHAT* TO EXPECT!

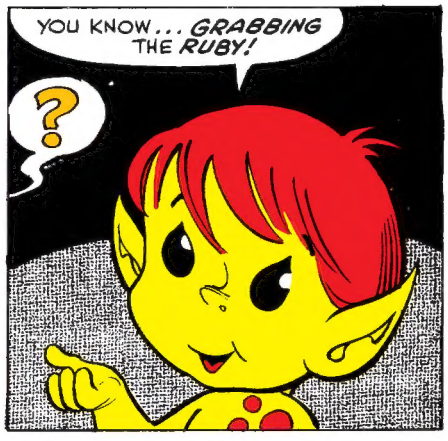
SHHH! I HEAR A *VOICE!*
YOU CAN *DO* IT!

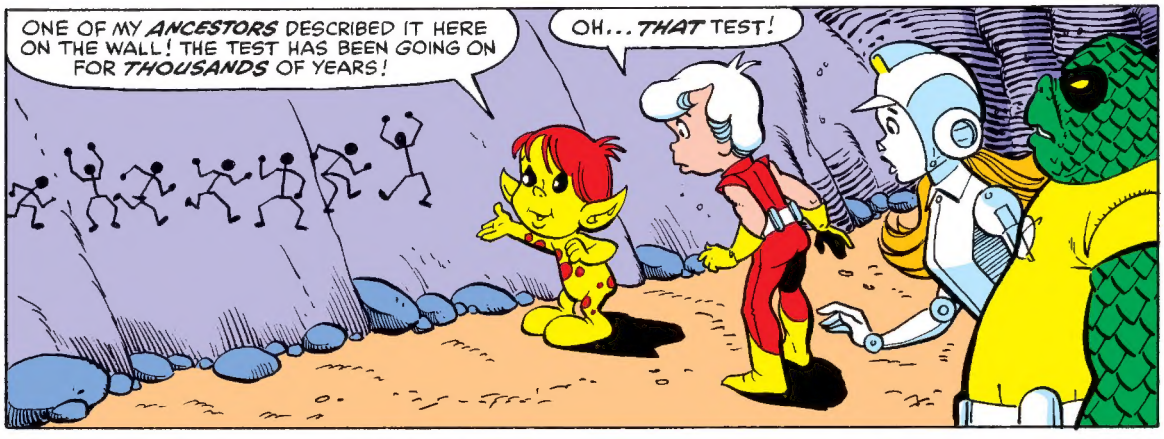

IT'S COMING FROM *BEHIND* THAT *DOOR!*
YOU CAN *DO* IT! YOU CAN *DO* IT!

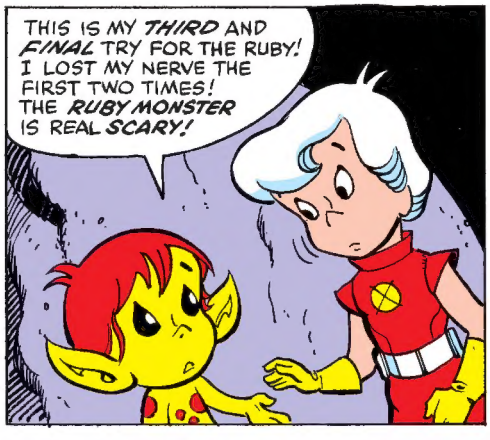
READY?
READY!

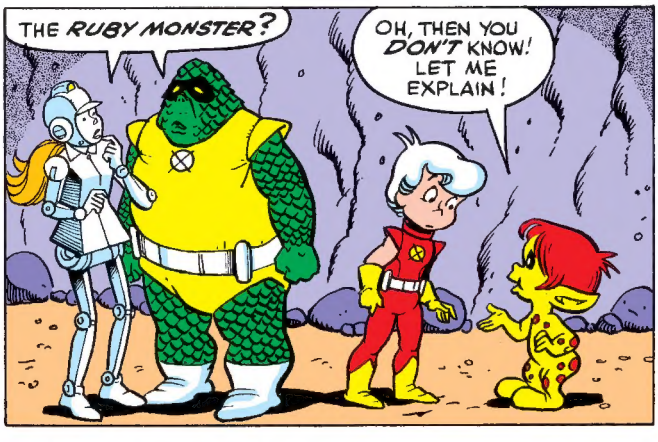

HI! ARE *YOU* HERE TO TAKE THE *TEST,* TOO?

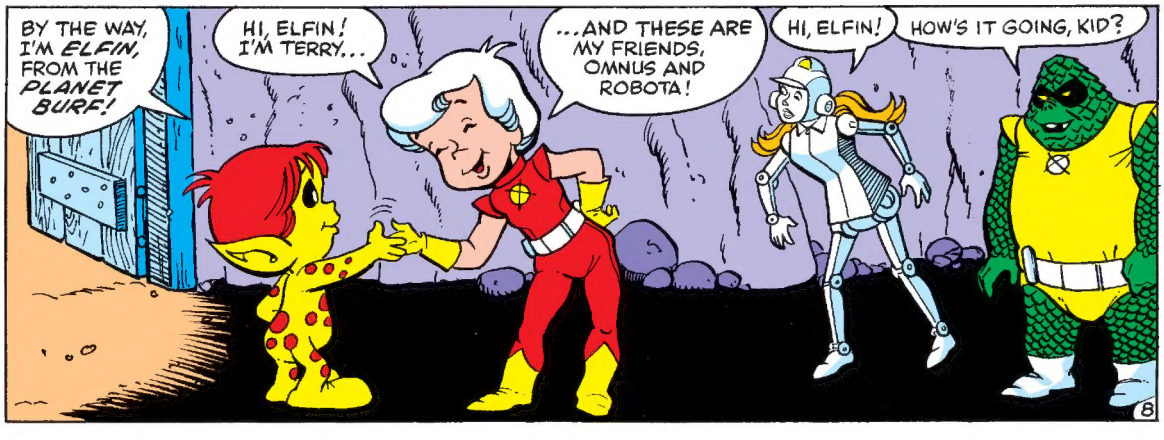

THE TEST? WHAT TEST?
THE TEST OF MANHOOD, OF COURSE!

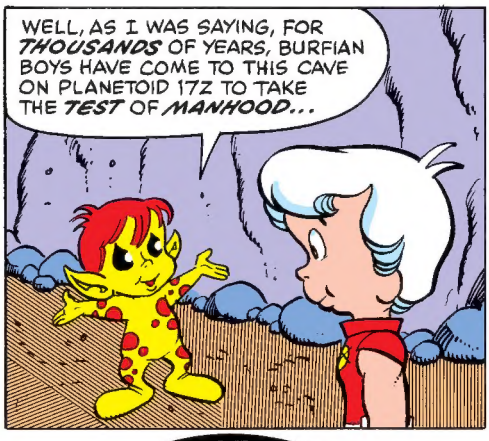

YOU KNOW... GRABBING THE RUBY!
?

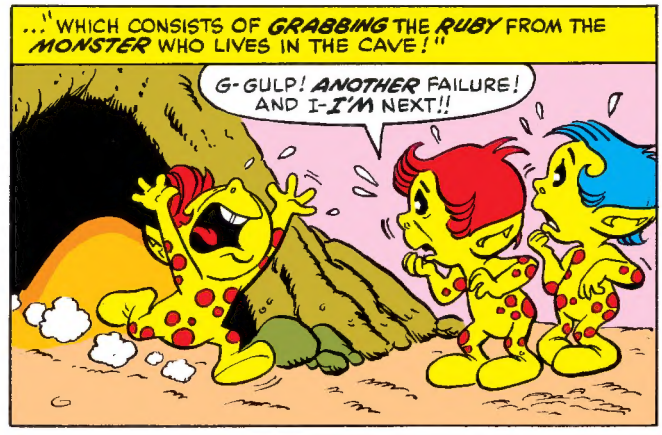

ONE OF MY ANCESTORS DESCRIBED IT HERE ON THE WALL! THE TEST HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS!
OH... THAT TEST!


THIS IS MY THIRD AND FINAL TRY FOR THE RUBY! I LOST MY NERVE THE FIRST TWO TIMES! THE RUBY MONSTER IS REAL SCARY!

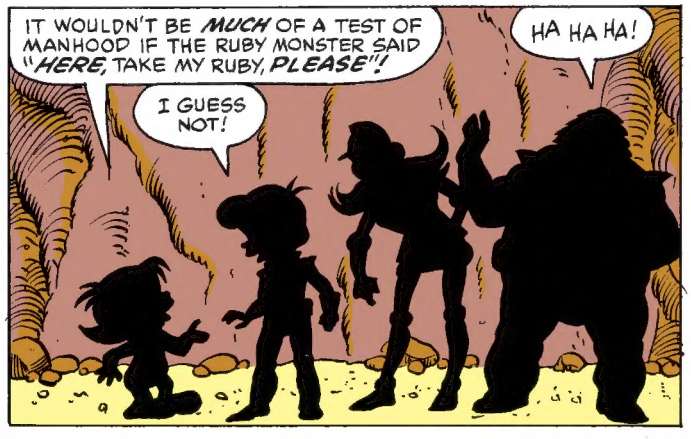

THE RUBY MONSTER?
OH, THEN YOU DON'T KNOW! LET ME EXPLAIN!

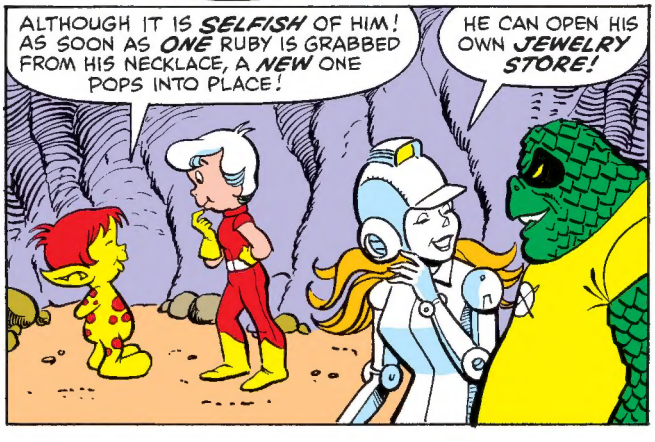

BY THE WAY, I'M ELFIN, FROM THE PLANET BURF!
HI, ELFIN! I'M TERRY...
...AND THESE ARE MY FRIENDS, OMNUS AND ROBOTA!
HI, ELFIN!
HOW'S IT GOING, KID?

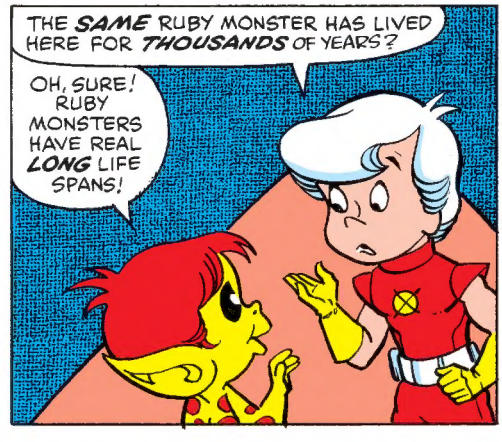

WELL, AS I WAS SAYING, FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS, BURFIAN BOYS HAVE COME TO THIS CAVE ON PLANETOID 17Z TO TAKE THE TEST OF MANHOOD...

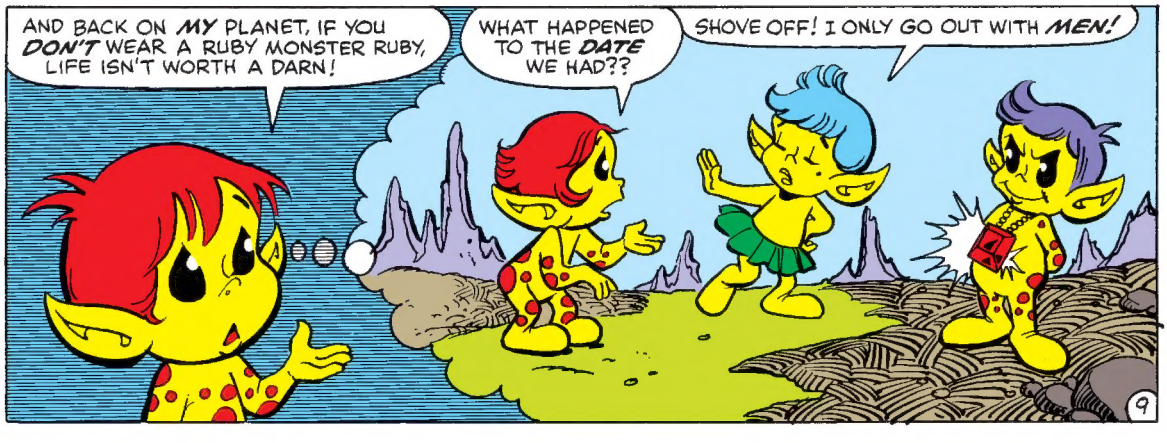

..."WHICH CONSISTS OF GRABBING THE RUBY FROM THE MONSTER WHO LIVES IN THE CAVE!"
G-GULP! ANOTHER FAILURE! AND I-I'M NEXT!!

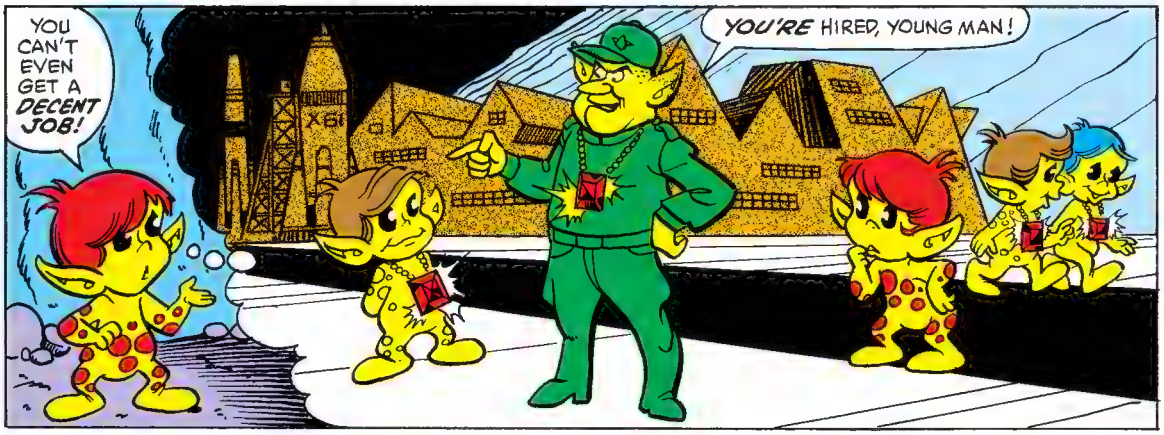
I ASSUME THE RUBY MONSTER OBJECTS TO THIS?
HA HA! BOY, DOES HE EVER!

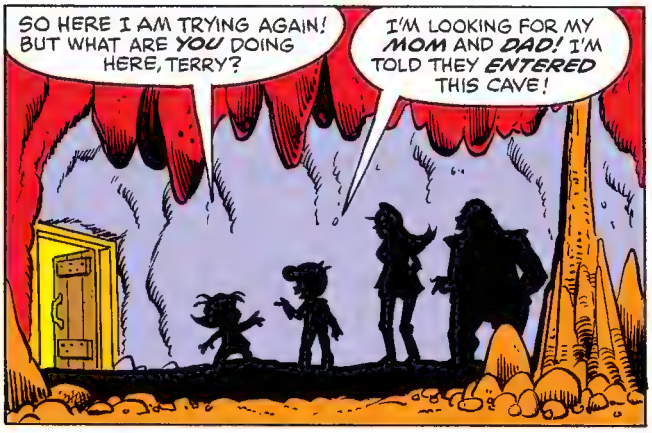

IT WOULDN'T BE MUCH OF A TEST OF MANHOOD IF THE RUBY MONSTER SAID "HERE, TAKE MY RUBY, PLEASE"!
HA HA HA!
I GUESS NOT!


ALTHOUGH IT IS SELFISH OF HIM! AS SOON AS ONE RUBY IS GRABBED FROM HIS NECKLACE, A NEW ONE POPS INTO PLACE!
HE CAN OPEN HIS OWN JEWELRY STORE!


THE SAME RUBY MONSTER HAS LIVED HERE FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS?
OH, SURE! RUBY MONSTERS HAVE REAL LONG LIFE SPANS!

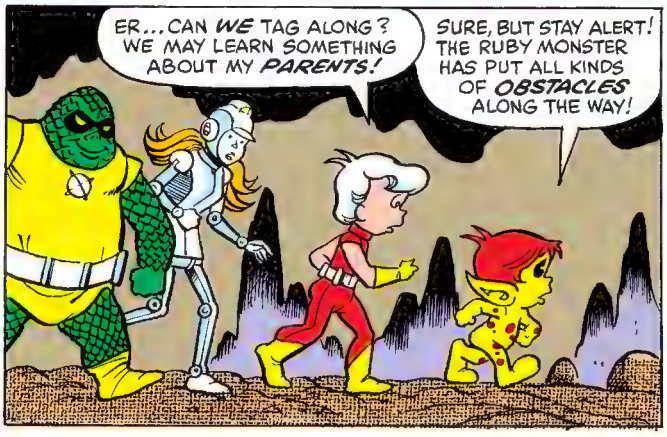

AND BACK ON MY PLANET, IF YOU DON'T WEAR A RUBY MONSTER RUBY, LIFE ISN'T WORTH A DARN!
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE DATE WE HAD??
SHOVE OFF! I ONLY GO OUT WITH MEN!

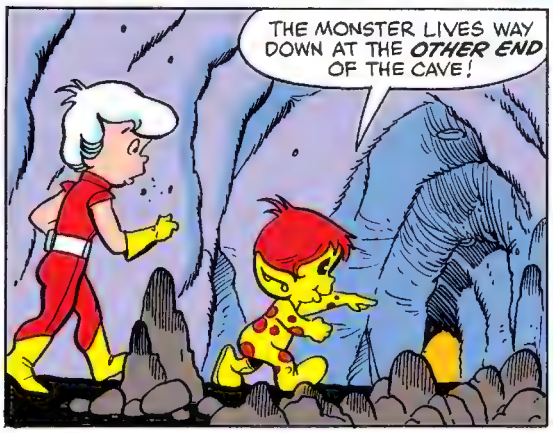

YOU CAN'T EVEN GET A DECENT JOB!
YOU'RE HIRED, YOUNG MAN!

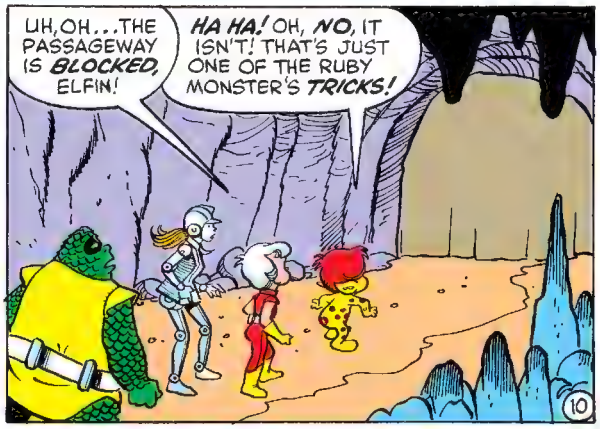

SO HERE I AM TRYING AGAIN! BUT WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, TERRY?
I'M LOOKING FOR MY MOM AND DAD! I'M TOLD THEY ENTERED THIS CAVE!

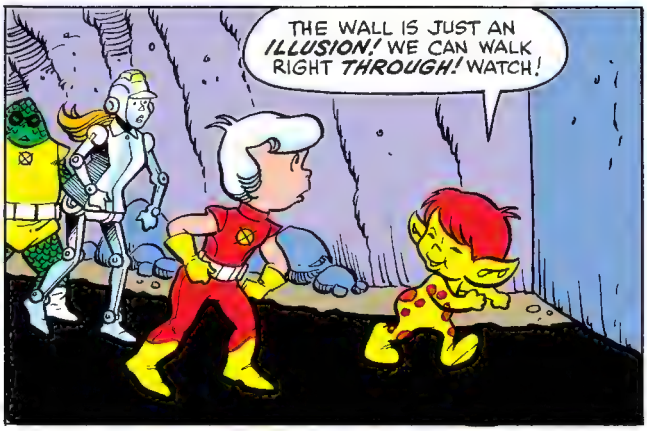
BUT THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO... AND WHO KNOWS WHERE THEY ARE NOW?

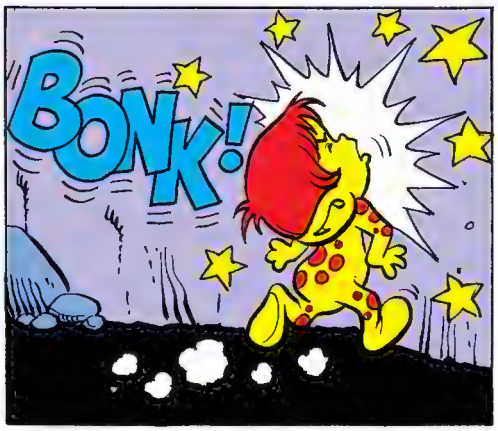
I HOPE YOU FIND THEM, TERRY! BUT, GEE, I'D BETTER GET STARTED! I CAN ONLY GET THE RUBY WHILE THE MONSTER SLEEPS!


ER... CAN WE TAG ALONG? WE MAY LEARN SOMETHING ABOUT MY PARENTS!
SURE, BUT STAY ALERT! THE RUBY MONSTER HAS PUT ALL KINDS OF OBSTACLES ALONG THE WAY!

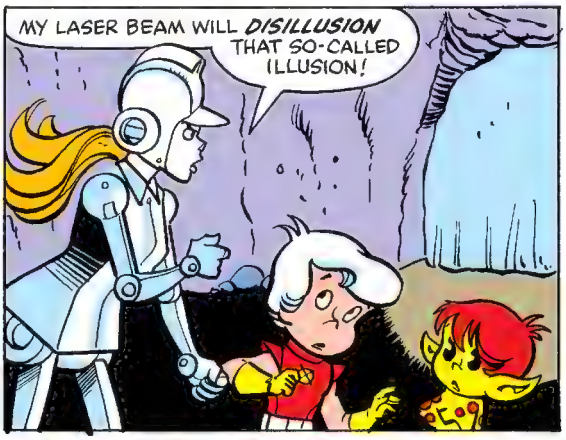

THE MONSTER LIVES WAY DOWN AT THE OTHER END OF THE CAVE!


UH, OH... THE PASSAGEWAY IS BLOCKED, ELFIN!
HA HA! OH, NO, IT ISN'T! THAT'S JUST ONE OF THE RUBY MONSTER'S TRICKS!

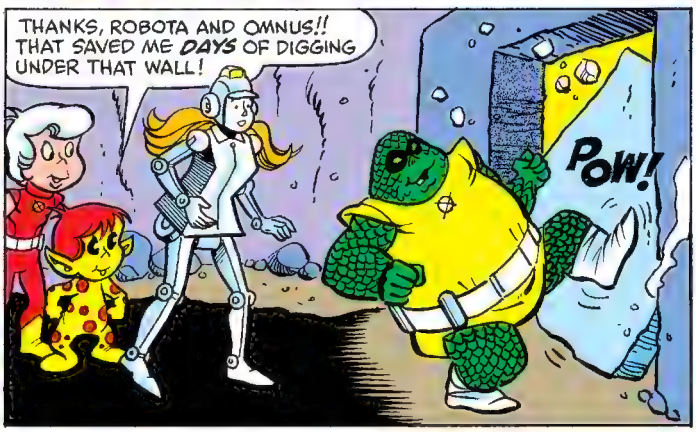

THE WALL IS JUST AN *ILLUSION!* WE CAN WALK RIGHT *THROUGH!* WATCH!


BONK!

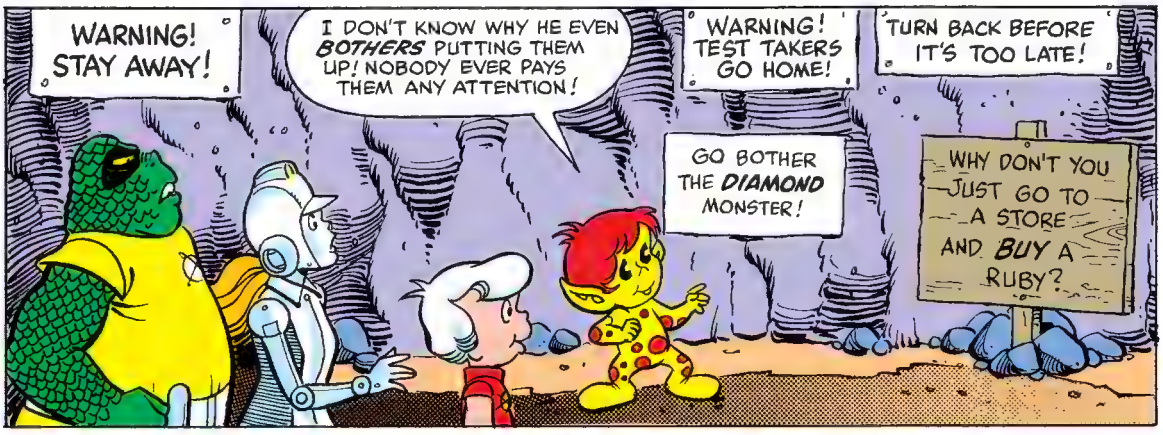
ARE YOU OKAY, ELFIN?
Y-YEAH! GEE... *LAST* TIME IT WAS AN ILLUSION!

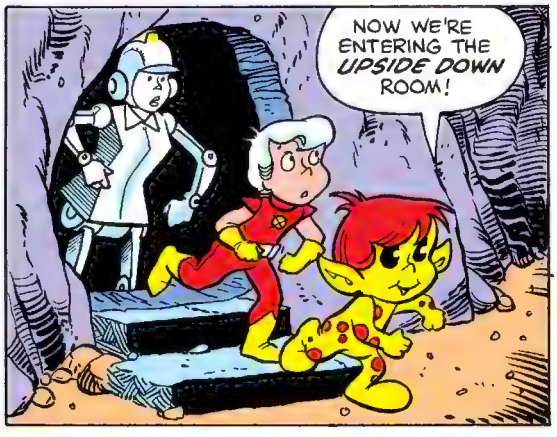

MY LASER BEAM WILL *DISILLUSION* THAT SO-CALLED ILLUSION!

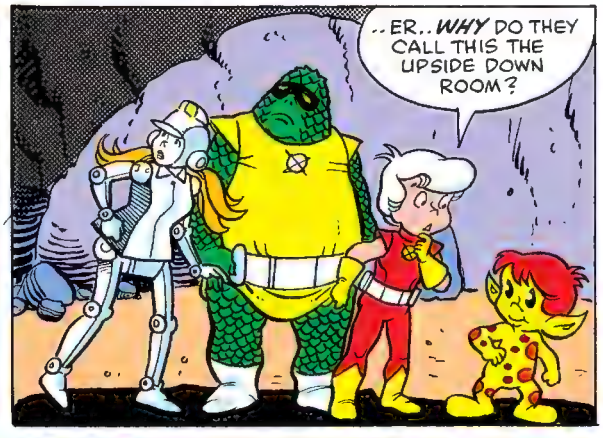
NICE *DOOR*, ROBOTA! NOW *I'LL* OPEN IT!
zzzzzzzzzz


THANKS, ROBOTA AND OMNUS!! THAT SAVED ME *DAYS* OF DIGGING UNDER THAT WALL!
POW!

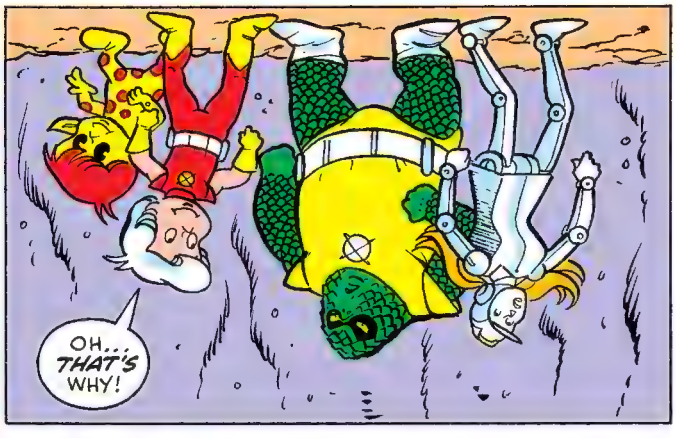
NEXT WE COME TO THE RUBY MONSTER'S *SIGN ROOM!*

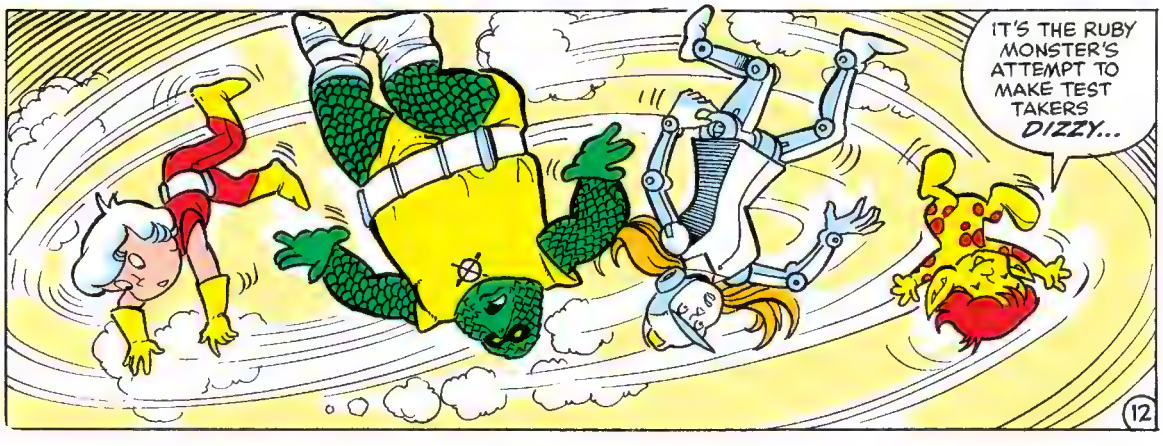

WARNING! STAY AWAY!
I DON'T KNOW WHY HE EVEN BOTHERS PUTTING THEM UP! NOBODY EVER PAYS THEM ANY ATTENTION!
WARNING! TEST TAKERS GO HOME!
TURN BACK BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!
GO BOTHER THE DIAMOND MONSTER!
WHY DON'T YOU JUST GO TO A STORE AND BUY A RUBY?


NOW WE'RE ENTERING THE UPSIDE DOWN ROOM!

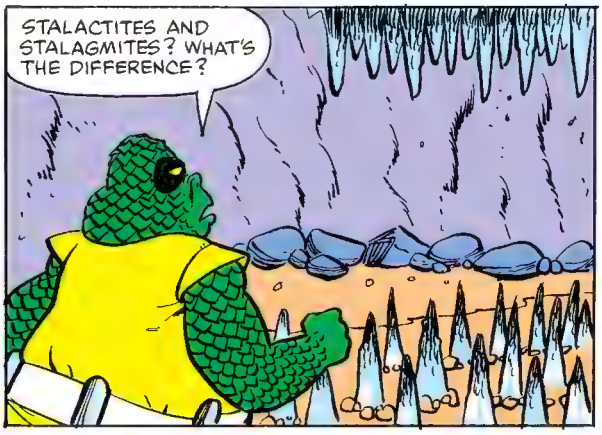

..ER.. WHY DO THEY CALL THIS THE UPSIDE DOWN ROOM?

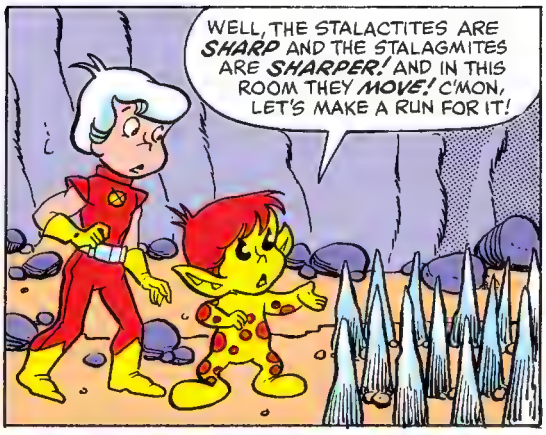
TWIRL!

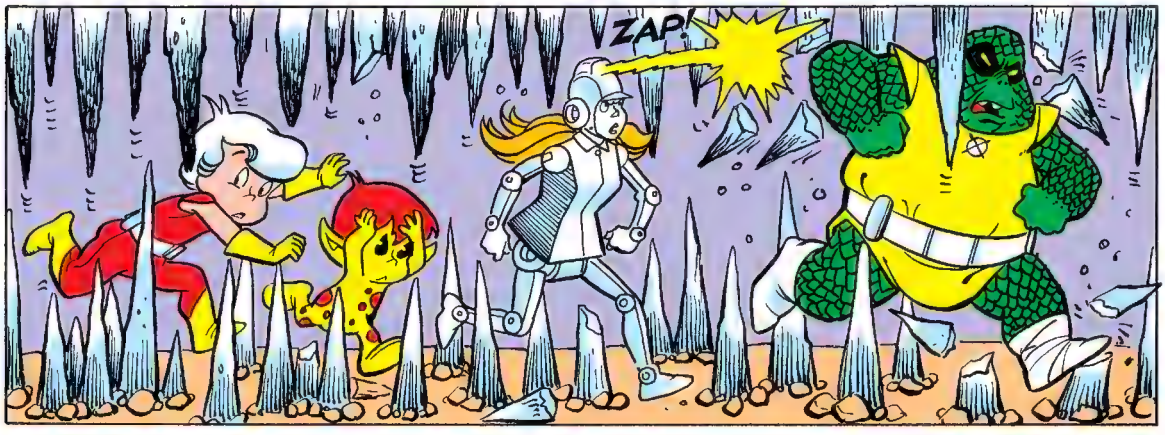

OH... THAT'S WHY!

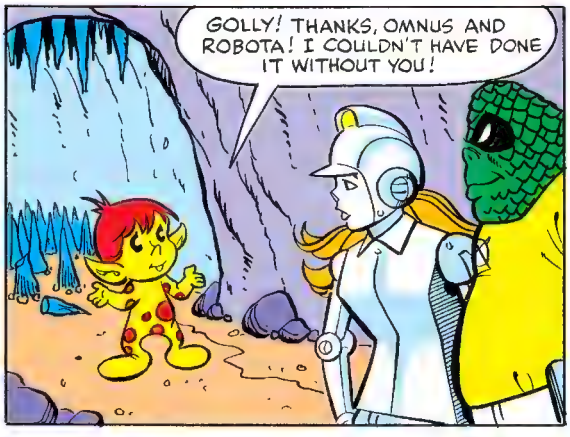

IT'S THE RUBY MONSTER'S ATTEMPT TO MAKE TEST TAKERS DIZZY...

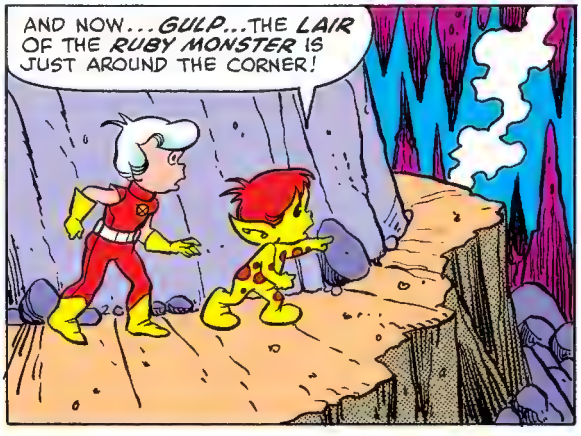
"SO THEY WON'T...
SPIN!
"...KNOW WHERE...
TWIRL!
"...THEY'RE...
SPIN!
"...GOING!!!"
WHIRRRR
OH, YEAH?? WELL... EXCUSE ME, OMNUS... IT'S NOT... PARDON ME, ELFIN... GOING TO WORK... OOPS, SORRY, ROBOTA... ON US!
UH... ON SECOND THOUGHT, MAYBE WE'D BETTER S-SIT DOWN FOR A WHILE!
SOON...
STILL DIZZY, TERRY?
NO MORE THAN USUAL, ELFIN! LET'S GO!
YIPE! WHAT'S THIS?
THE STALACTITE AND STALAGMITE ROOM!


STALACTITES AND STALAGMITES? WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?


WELL, THE STALACTITES ARE *SHARP* AND THE STALAGMITES ARE *SHARPER!* AND IN THIS ROOM THEY *MOVE!* C'MON, LET'S MAKE A RUN FOR IT!

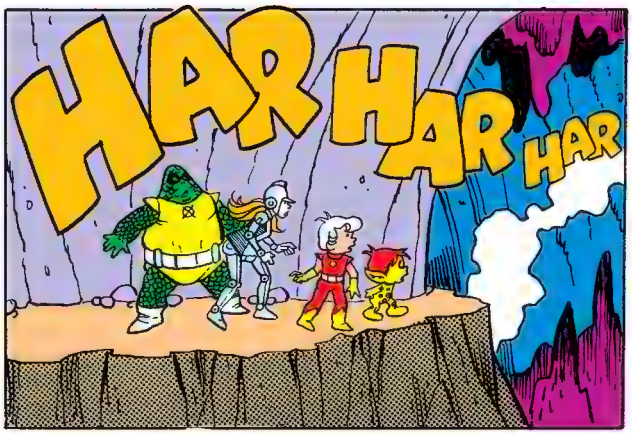

ZAP!

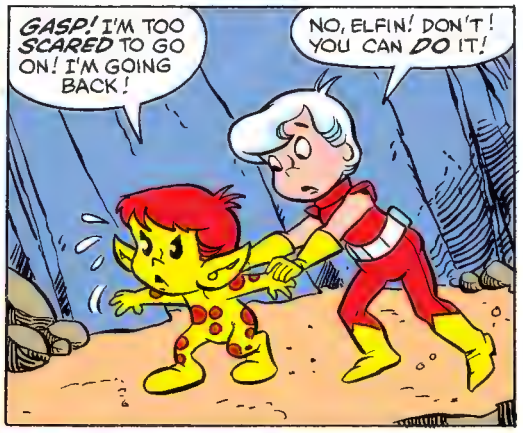

GOLLY! THANKS, OMNUS AND ROBOTA! I COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU!


AND NOW... *GULP*... THE *LAIR* OF THE *RUBY MONSTER* IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

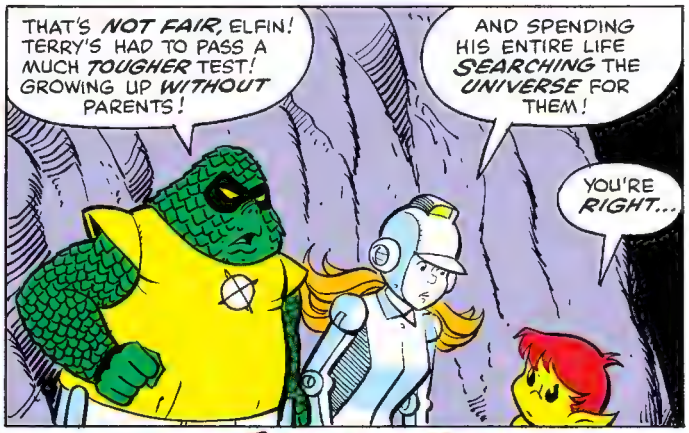
DON'T WORRY, ELFIN! WE'LL *HELP* YOU GET YOUR RUBY!
NO! I'VE GOT TO GET IT *MYSELF!* THAT'S THE TEST!

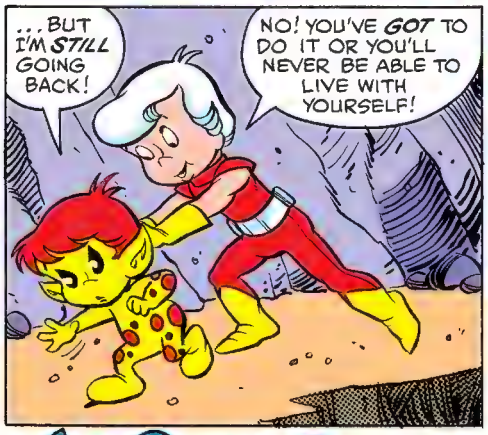
SHHHH! BE QUIET!

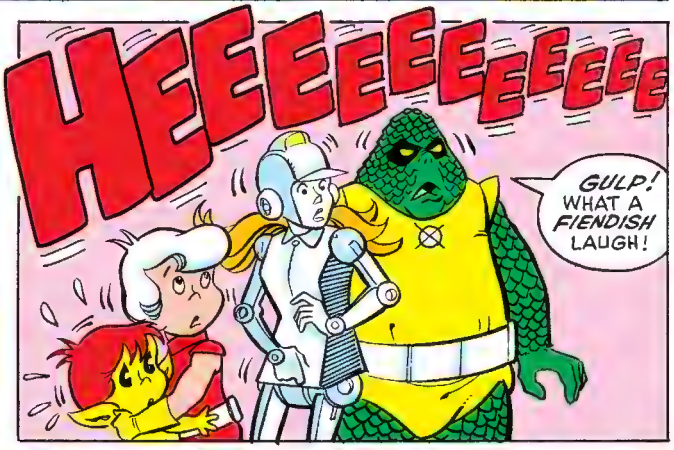

HAR HAR HAR


GASP! I'M TOO SCARED TO GO ON! I'M GOING BACK!
NO, ELFIN! DON'T! YOU CAN DO IT!

THAT'S EASY FOR YOU TO SAY, TERRY! YOU'RE NOT TAKING THE TEST!

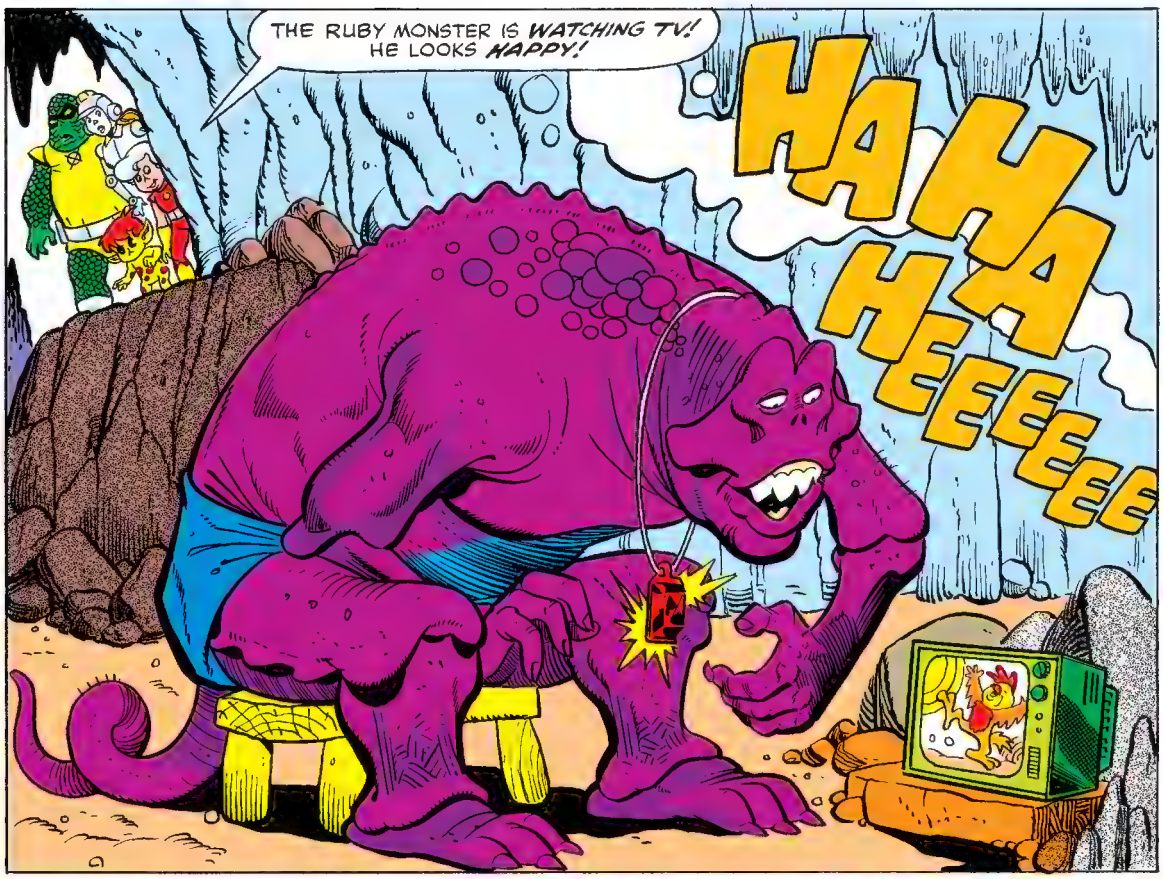

THAT'S NOT FAIR, ELFIN! TERRY'S HAD TO PASS A MUCH TOUGHER TEST! GROWING UP WITHOUT PARENTS!
AND SPENDING HIS ENTIRE LIFE SEARCHING THE UNIVERSE FOR THEM!
YOU'RE RIGHT...

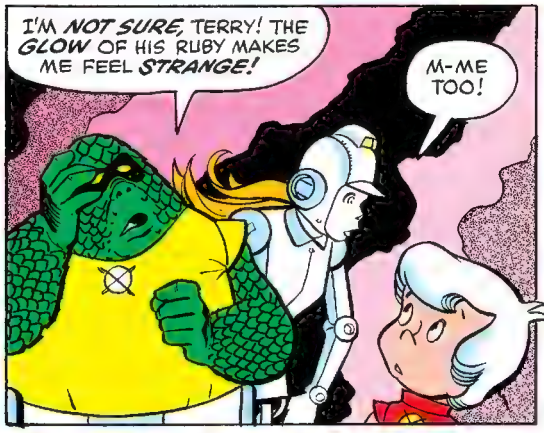

...BUT I'M STILL GOING BACK!
NO! YOU'VE GOT TO DO IT OR YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO LIVE WITH YOURSELF!

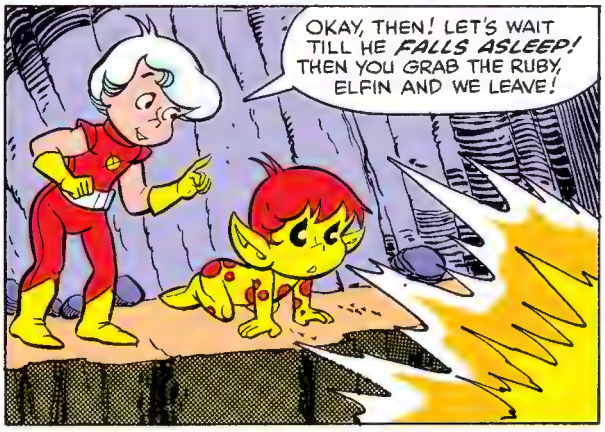

HEEEEEEEEEEE
GULP! WHAT A FIENDISH LAUGH!

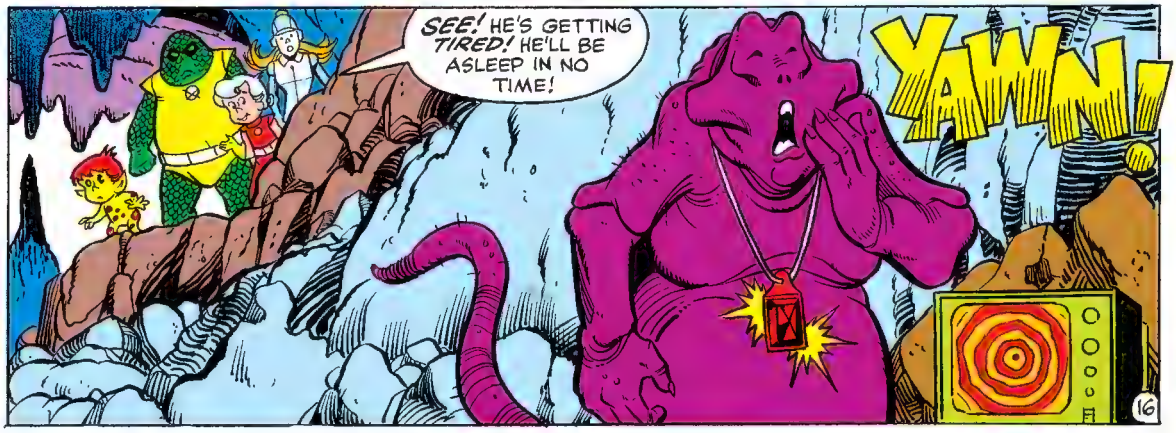
HAR HAR HAR!
WELL... I'M GOING TO TAKE A LOOK!

HEY, GUYS! COME HERE!

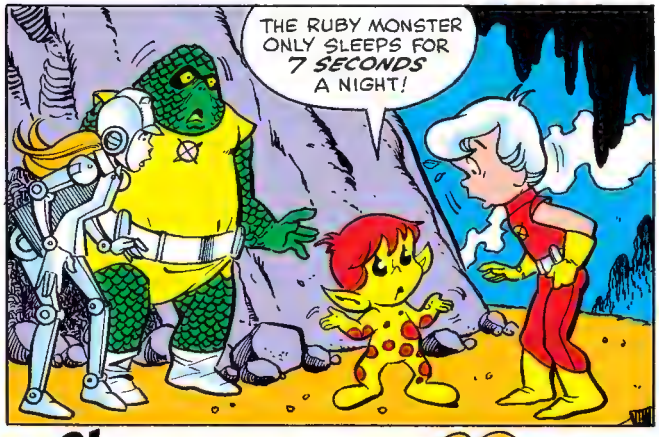

THE RUBY MONSTER IS WATCHING TV! HE LOOKS HAPPY!
HAHAHEEEEEEE

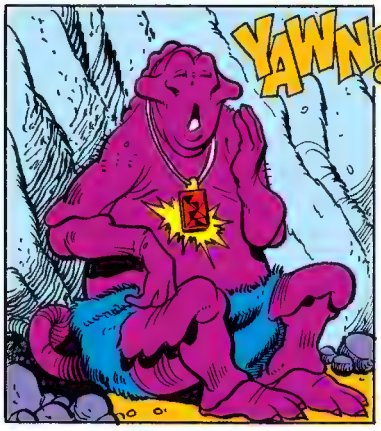

I'M NOT SURE, TERRY! THE GLOW OF HIS RUBY MAKES ME FEEL STRANGE!
M-ME TOO!

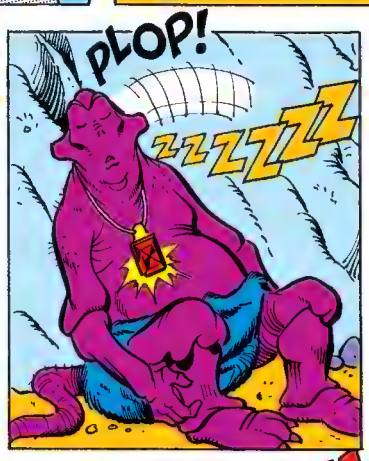

OKAY, THEN! LET'S WAIT TILL HE FALLS ASLEEP! THEN YOU GRAB THE RUBY, ELFIN AND WE LEAVE!


SEE! HE'S GETTING TIRED! HE'LL BE ASLEEP IN NO TIME!
YAWN!

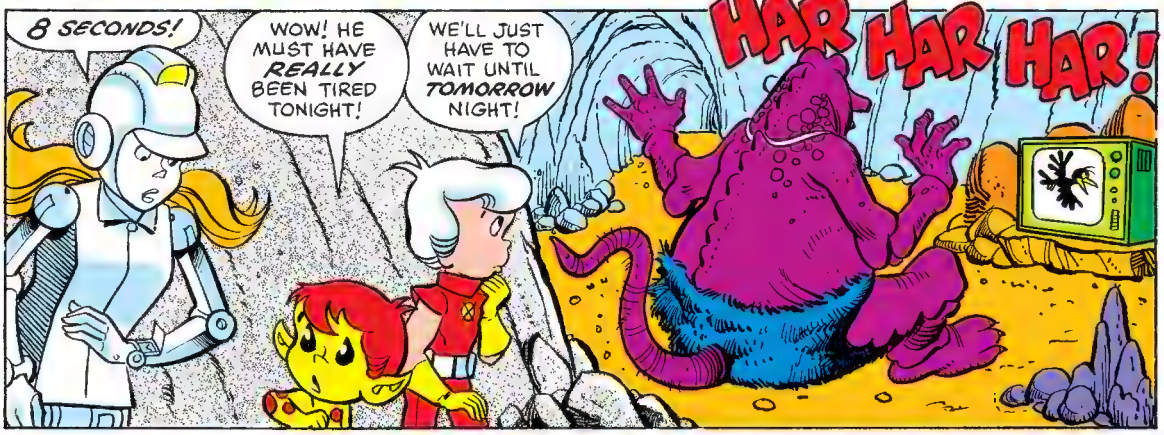
THERE'S JUST ONE LITTLE PROBLEM, TERRY!
WHAT'S THAT?

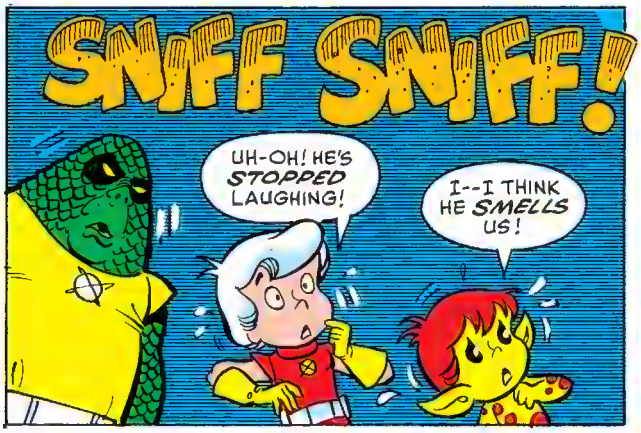

THE RUBY MONSTER ONLY SLEEPS FOR 7 SECONDS A NIGHT!

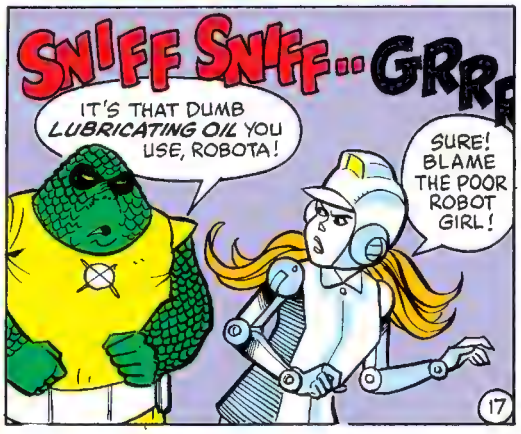

YAWN!

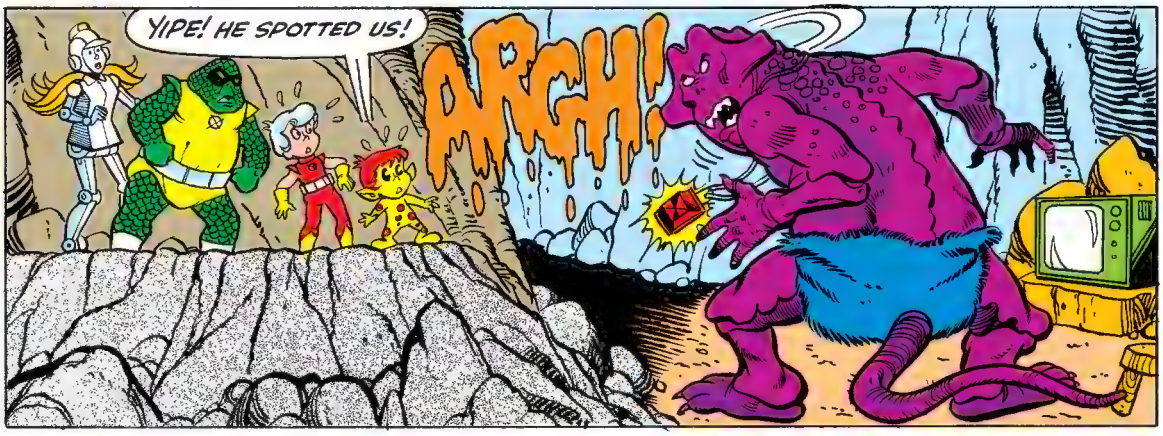

PLOP!
ZZZZZZ

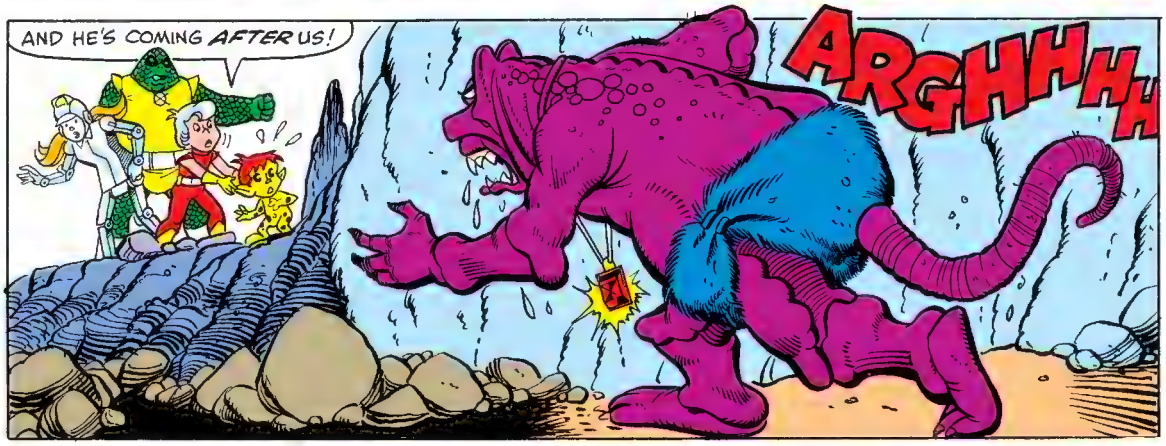
BOING


8 SECONDS!
WOW! HE MUST HAVE REALLY BEEN TIRED TONIGHT!
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW NIGHT!
HAR HAR HAR!

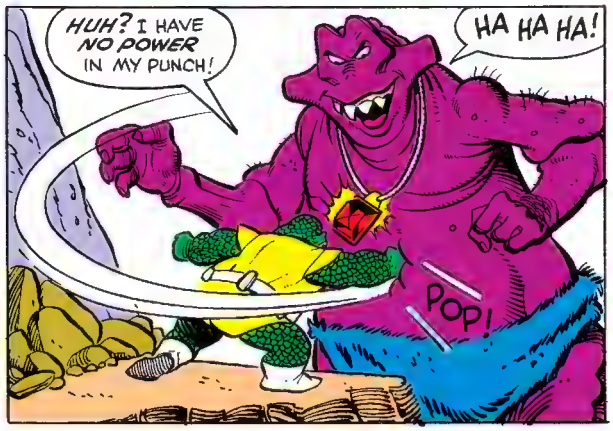

SNIFF SNIFF!
UH-OH! HE'S STOPPED LAUGHING!
I--I THINK HE SMELLS US!


SNIFF SNIFF... GRRR
IT'S THAT DUMB LUBRICATING OIL YOU USE, ROBOTA!
SURE! BLAME THE POOR ROBOT GIRL!

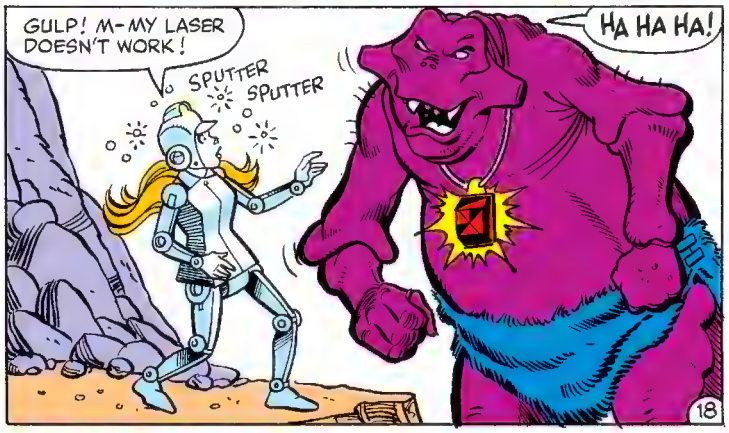

YIPE! HE SPOTTED US!
ARGH!

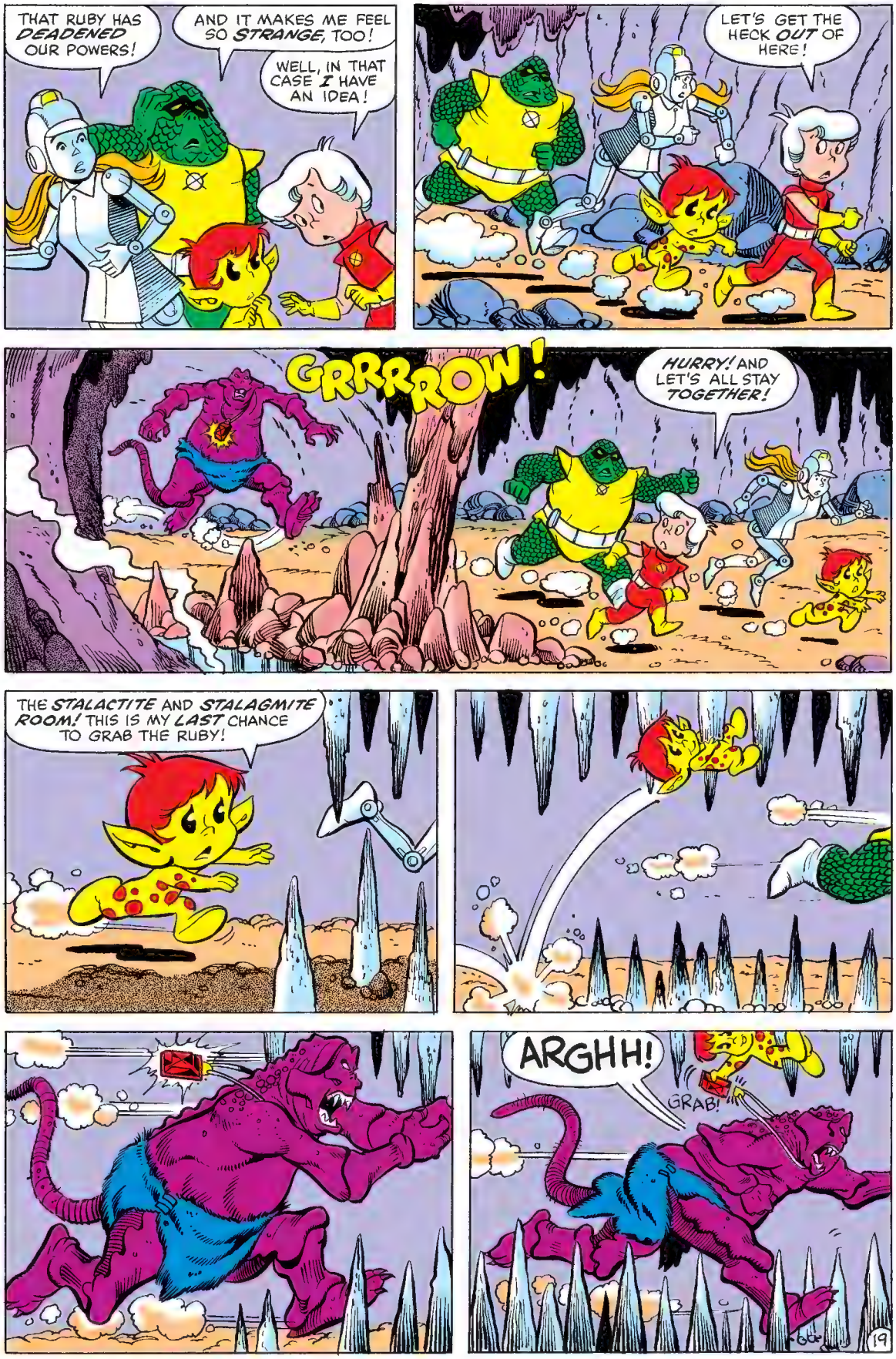

AND HE'S COMING AFTER US!
ARGHHHHH

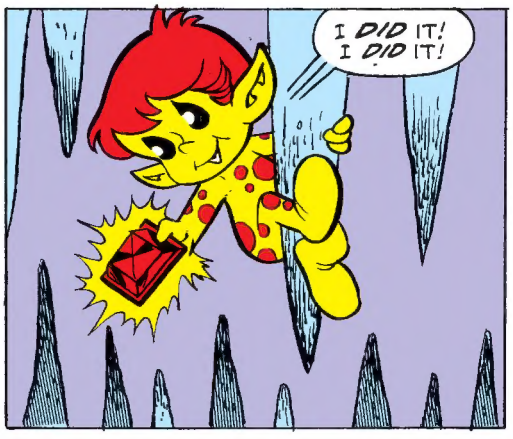
OKAY, ELFIN! YOU'RE GOING TO GET YOUR RUBY OFF A SLEEPING RUBY MONSTER AFTER ALL!

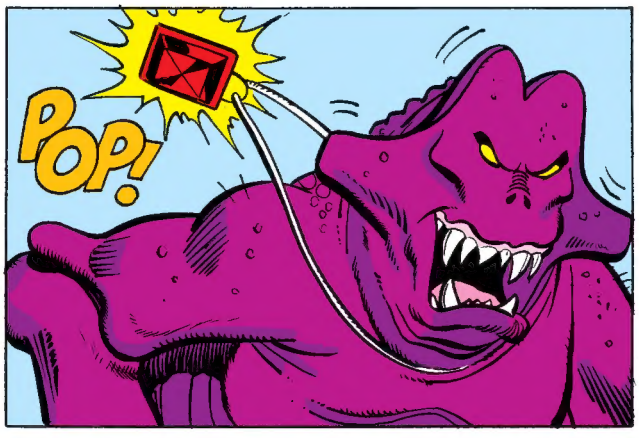

HUH? I HAVE NO POWER IN MY PUNCH!
HA HA HA!
POP!

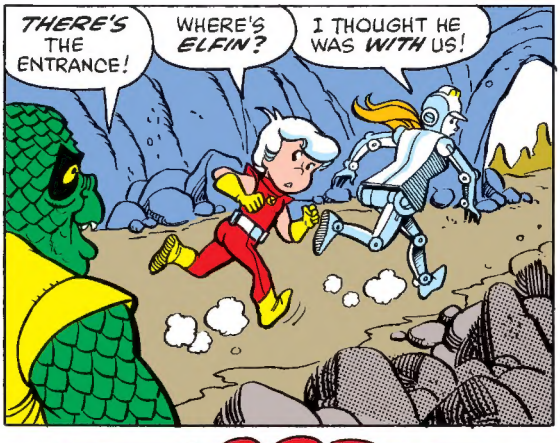
I'LL USE MY LASER TO START A LANDSLIDE AND BLOCK HIM OFF!

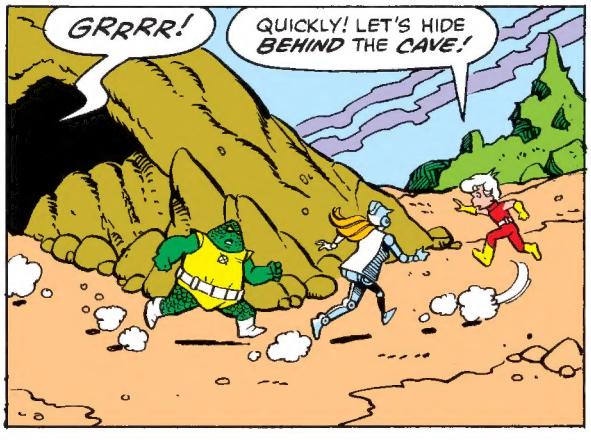

GULP! M-MY LASER DOESN'T WORK!
SPUTTER SPUTTER
HA HA HA!

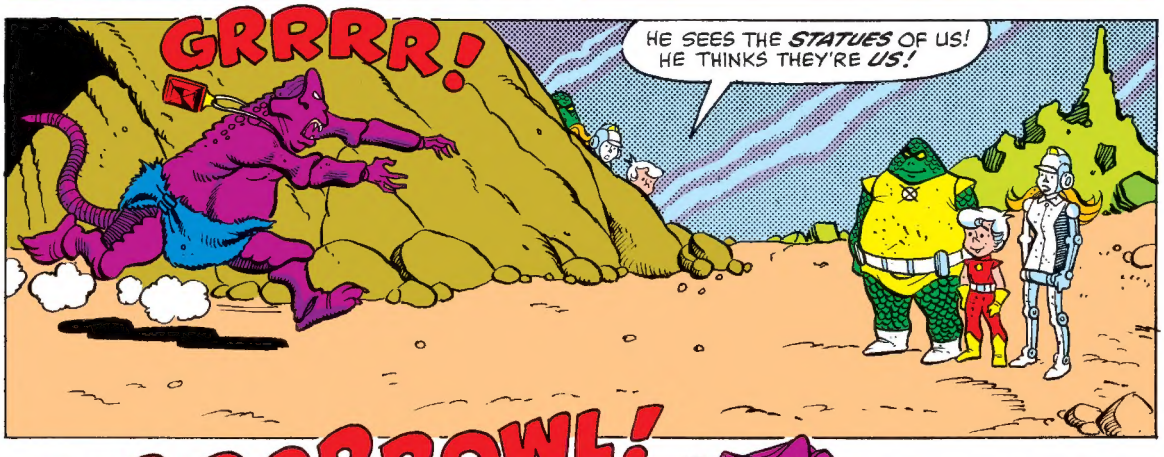

THAT RUBY HAS DEADENED OUR POWERS!
AND IT MAKES ME FEEL SO STRANGE, TOO!
WELL, IN THAT CASE I HAVE AN IDEA!
LET'S GET THE HECK OUT OF HERE!
GRRRROW!
HURRY! AND LET'S ALL STAY TOGETHER!
THE STALACTITE AND STALAGMITE ROOM! THIS IS MY LAST CHANCE TO GRAB THE RUBY!
ARGHH!
GRAB!

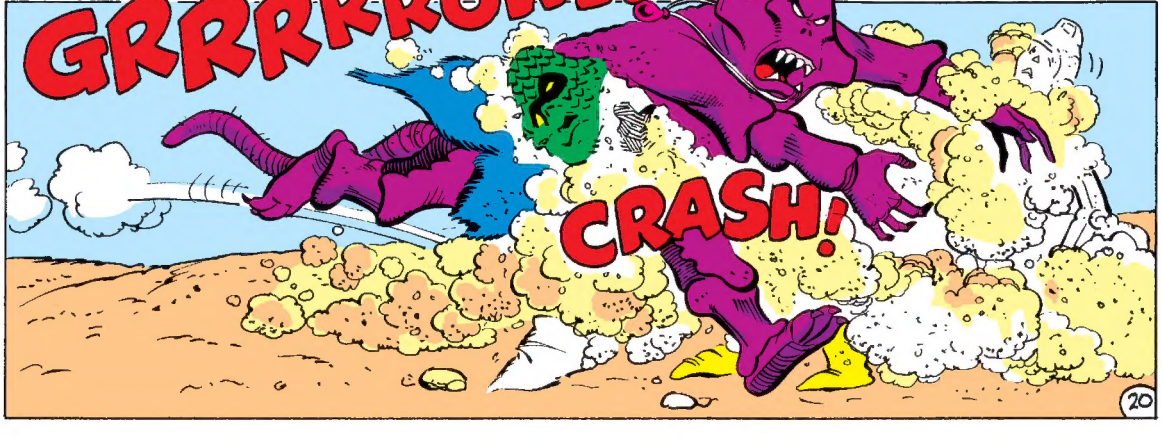

I DID IT! I DID IT!

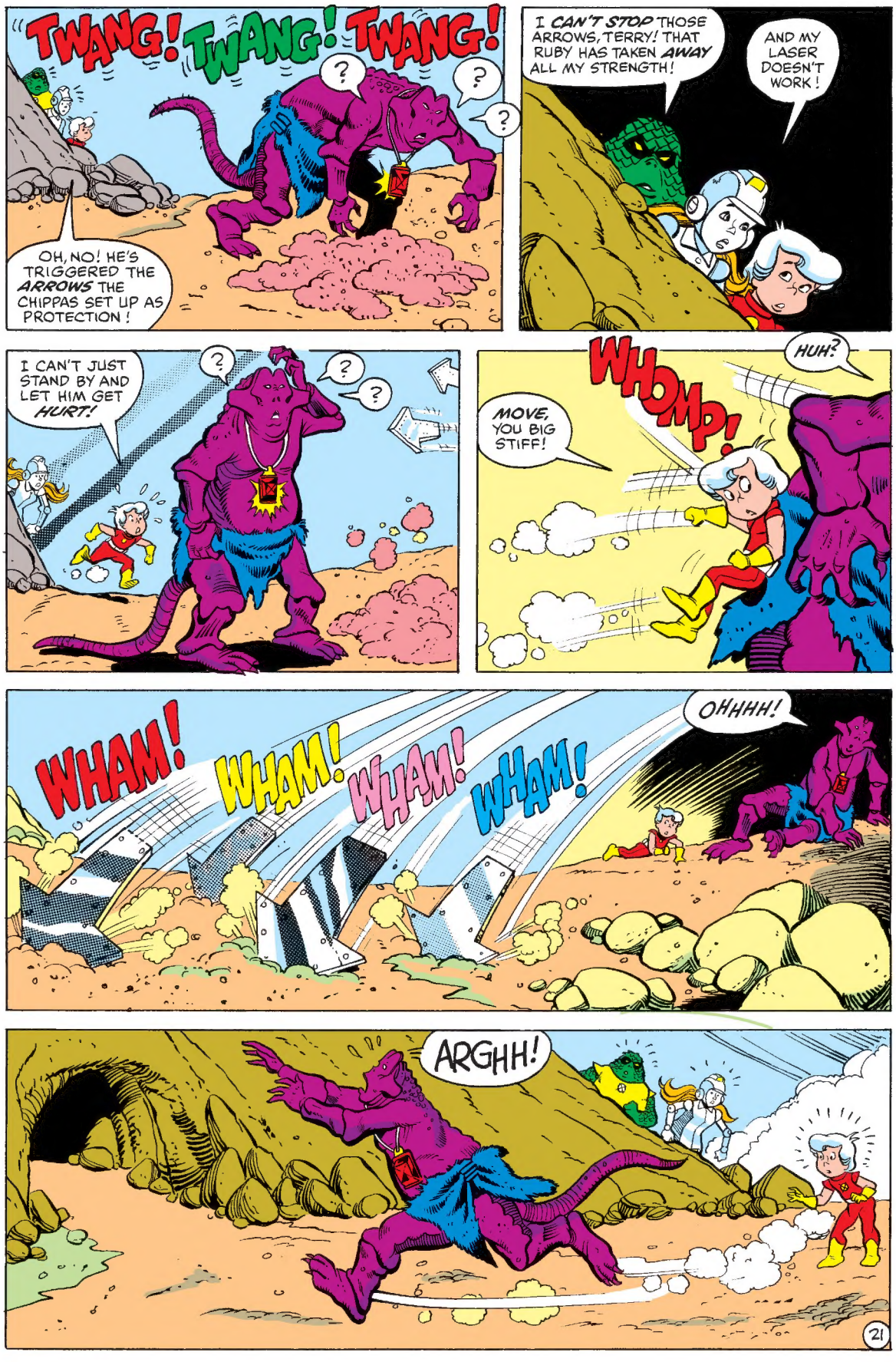

POP!

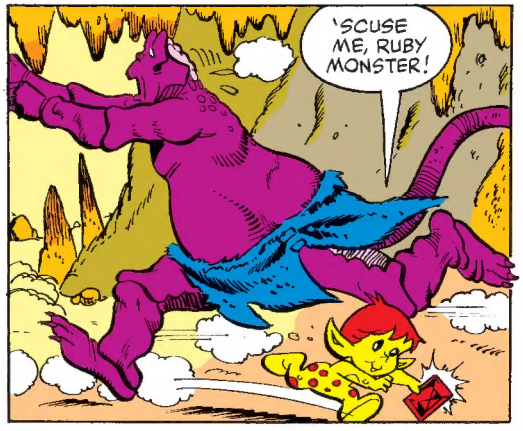

THERE'S THE ENTRANCE!
WHERE'S ELFIN?
I THOUGHT HE WAS WITH US!

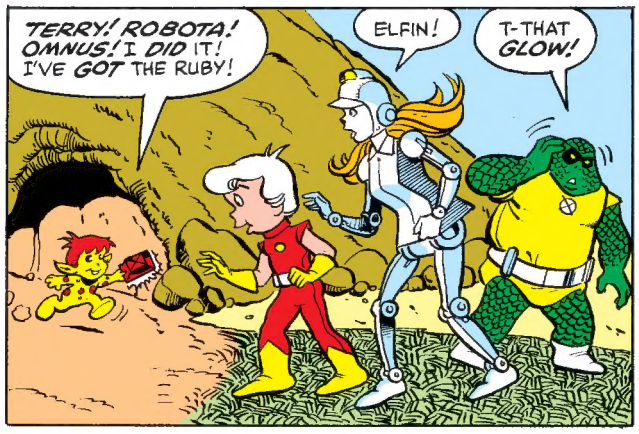

GRRRR!
QUICKLY! LET'S HIDE BEHIND THE CAVE!

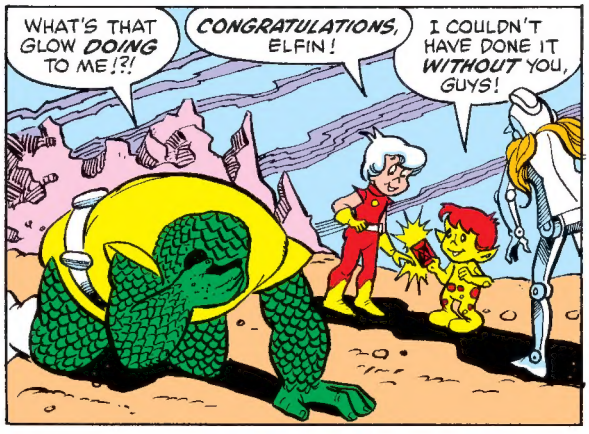

GRRRR!
HE SEES THE STATUES OF US! HE THINKS THEY'RE US!

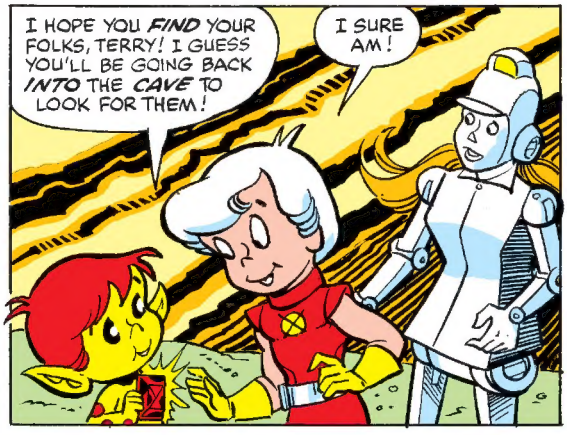

GRRRRROWL!
CRASH!

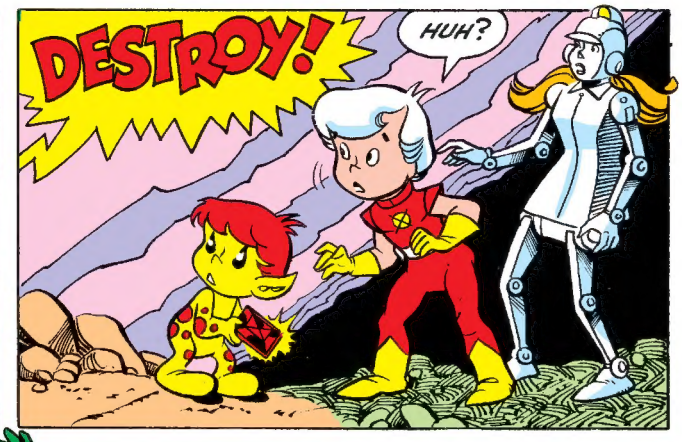

TWANG! TWANG! TWANG!
?
?
?
OH, NO! HE'S TRIGGERED THE ARROWS THE CHIPPAS SET UP AS PROTECTION!
I CAN'T STOP THOSE ARROWS, TERRY! THAT RUBY HAS TAKEN AWAY ALL MY STRENGTH!
AND MY LASER DOESN'T WORK!
I CAN'T JUST STAND BY AND LET HIM GET HURT!
?
?
?
WHOMP!
HUH?
MOVE, YOU BIG STIFF!
WHAM!
WHAM!
WHAM!
WHAM!
OHHHH!
ARGHH!











NEXT ISSUE: *PRISONERS OF SUBTERIA!*

E
E
M
R
P
I
Shadowcat